

The VOX



The Official Newsletter of the

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI / 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 June LVARC meeting will be held on <u>Tuesday</u> July 11, 2023 using **ZOOM** <u>AND</u> In-Person at <u>7:30p</u>.

The program: "2023 Field Day Review" - de Rod (N3XG)

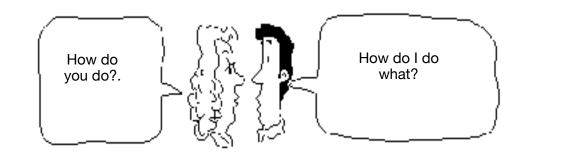
Plan to attend this Meeting!

The LVARC holds it's monthly meeting the FIRST TUESDAY of every month BOTH In Person <u>AND</u> 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

Up Coming 2023 LVARC Programs

July 11 - "2023 Field Day Review" - de Rod (N3XG)



# Do you remember ... Caps for toy cap guns?

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

4. Thursday Night - 2m Simplex Net - 8:00p - 147.420 MHz

Check into one or all!



#### LVARC 2023 Test Session Dates

### <u>2023</u>

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.

### **2023 LVARC EVENTS**

July 11 - 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.

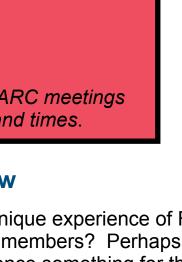
### Field Day 2023 Review

Did you enjoy Field Day 2023? Did you have a unique experience of FD that you would like to express and share with the members? Perhaps this was your first FD or maybe you got to experience something for the first time.

Send your 2023 Field Day experience including any pictures, to Mark (AK3M) at <u>AK3M@rcn.com</u> for inclusion in the VOX.

### For the Older Hams

Do you remember the days when you received your call, the first thing you did was to see how it sounded in CW?



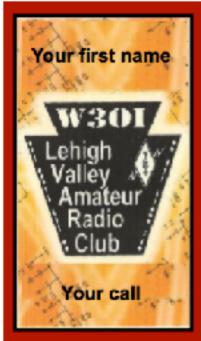




## **This Month In Ham Radio**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Jul	y			1
2	LVARC Net N3XG 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	4 July 4 Holiday	D-Star Net 7:00p	6	7	IARU HF World Champ
IARU HF World Champ	10 LVARC Net 7:30p N3RPV 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	11 LVARC Meeting 7:30p	12 D-Star Net 7:00p	13	14	15 North American QSO Party
lɓ North American QSO Party	17 LVARC Net 7:30p WW3TRG 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	18 LVARC "Hands On Night"	D-Star Net 7:00p	20	21	22
23	24 LVARC Net 7:30p AK3M 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	25	26 D-Star Net 7:00p	27	28	29
30	ILVARC Net 7:30pKC3HWD2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p		2	02:	3	

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club W3OI - VOX — July 2023 page 5 of 30



### 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.



The U.S. flag can be displayed for all 24 hours.

While it is Federal law that the flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset (unless there's inclement weather), there are measures that can be taken to show the flag for all 24 hours.

All that needs to be added is proper illumination of the flag so it can be seen in the dark.

[Summer] "The tans will fade but the memories will last

#### 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.

#### Hanover Township 5K Review

The Hanover Township 5K was held on Saturday June 3, 2023.

This event was held to benefit, "*Women's Move for Health*." About 30 runners participated this event.

Eleven LVARC members participated in providing communications support for this event on an overcast

day with 73 degree temperatures. A directed net was opened at 00845 and the race began at 0900. There was no emergency or priority traffic for this event. The directed net was closed at 1006.

The LVARC volunteers included, Mark (**AK3M**), Charles (**KC3TDQ**), Paul (**KA3MTY**), Phil (**KB3HMK**), Dan (**KC3HWD**), Bob (**WB3JSZ**), Andy (**AK3KA**), Matthew (**KC3VNK**), Don (**N0VGA**), Jack (**KC9DQV**) and Scotty (**W3SGT**).

A BIG TNX to all LVARC operators who make community (ARES) events like this possible!

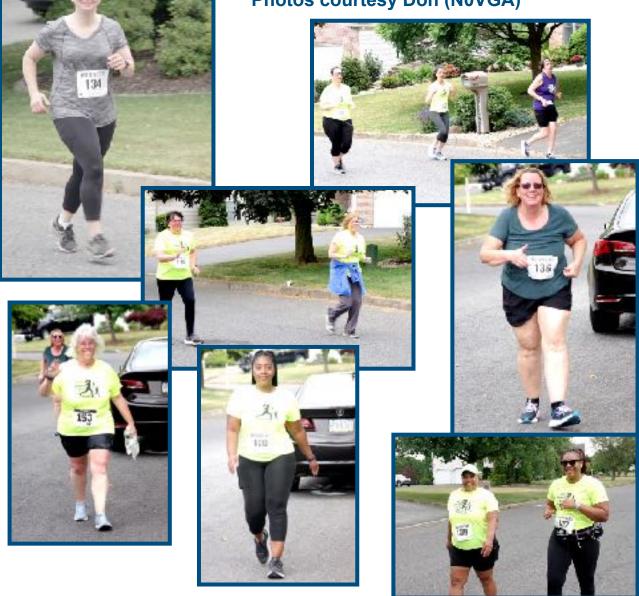
On pages 8,9 and 10 are pictures of the event submitted by LVARC operators.



Pictures submitted by LVARC ARES operators from the 2023 Hanover Township 5K



#### Photos courtesy Don (N0VGA)



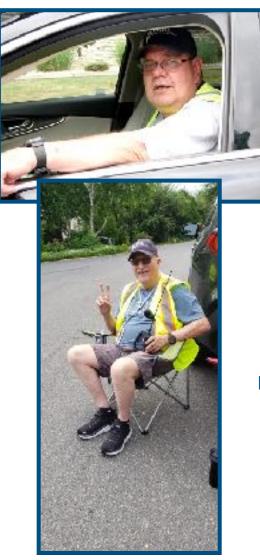


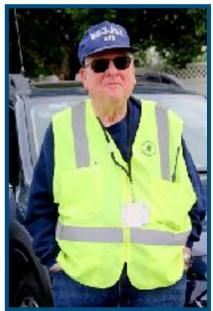
Photos courtesy Bob (WB3JSZ) LVARC's Finest!



Photos courtesy Don (N0VGA)







Photos courtesy Scotty (W3SGT (left)

### Want a Ham Radio Automobile License Plate Frame?



\$10.99

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1221205425/customham-radio-amateur-radio-call-sign? gpla=1&gao=1&&utm\_source=google&utm\_medium =cpc&utm\_campaign=shopping\_us\_delectronics\_and\_accessoriescar\_parts\_and\_accessoriescar\_accessories&utm\_custom1=\_k\_CjwKCAjwg-GjBhBnEiwAMUvNWxTfBIHZGknT9wp9aliMnrXtTW CUtLlaloQoQi00rtwiP4QfXIZpSxoCi7cQAvD\_BwE\_k &utm\_content=go\_12573359018\_123264449727\_5 07851950537\_pla-354955384985\_c\_1221205425 559673635&utm\_custom2=12573359018&gclid=Cj wKCAjwg-GjBhBnEiwAMUvNWxTfBIHZGknT9wp9aliMnrXtTW CUtLlaloQoQi00rtwiP4QfXIZpSxoCi7cQAvD\_BwE



\$15.00

https://home.arrl.org/action/ Store/Product-Details/ productId/2005378770

The two frames are not the only frames available. Search the internet for other ham radio license plate frames.



#### **U.S. Flag Etiquette**

The flag should never be displayed with the union (stars) down, unless as a signal of dire distress. The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise. The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

### **LVARC Event Changes**

1. The LVARC July meeting will be held on Tuesday July 11 because of the July 4 holiday.

2. The August 18 test session will be held in the LVARC meeting room at the Tri Clover Fire Company at 6:00p.

### **Heil HT Headset**

**Heil has an HT headset!** Cost is \$35.00 - \$39.00. For Yaesu, Baofeng and Kenwood. Hell is considered having top end audio equipment! Check out the link.



READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

### 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's5K Classic, contact Mark (AK3M) at <u>AK3M@rcn.com</u>.

To volunteer for the D&L RaceFest, contact Rod (N3XG) at <u>n3xg.radio@gmail.com</u>.





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





### Did you enjoy Field Day 2023?



Whether your first Field Day or if you are a veteran Field Day attendee, send your experience of Field Day 2023 to Mark (AK3M) for inclusion in the VOX.



Monday Night Net Control operators are being sought. If you are interested in becoming a Net Control Operator, contact Rod (N3XG) at n3xg.radio@gmail.com.

#### **REMINDER:**

Because of the July 4 holiday, the July LVARC meeting will be held on the SECOND Tuesday in July ONLY), on Tuesday July 11.

### **New LVARC Members!**

At the June 6, 2023 meeting, the following were voted in as new LVARC members!!

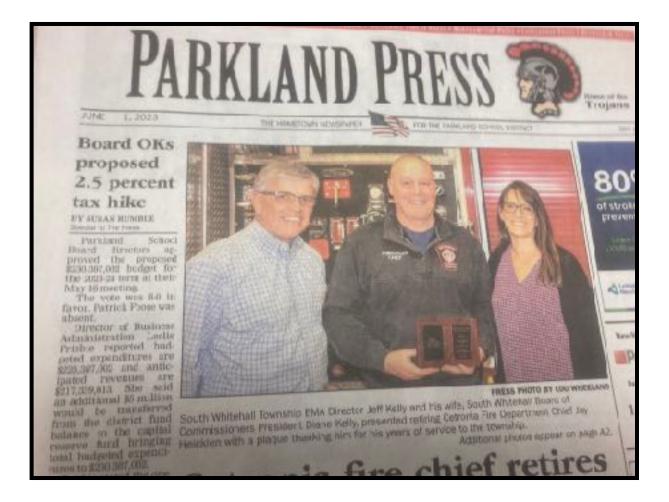


Rodrigo Schilling - **KA3RES** Robert Melchiorre - **KC3WCB** 

Welcome them to the club if you hear him on the air or meet them at a meeting!

### LVARC Member and XYL Make the News!

Jeff (N3MFT) and XYL Diane Kelly were featured n the Parkland Press on June 1, 2023. Jeff is the South Whitehall Township EMA director and Diane is the South Whitehall Board of Commissioners president.



#### This is YOUR newsletter!

Maybe you want to tell about your new radio, your Field Day experience, how ham radio went on vacation with you or anything else ham radio related.

Send your submissions for the VOX to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

### Net Report for May 2023

#### Monday night ARES / ACS

May 1 - 41 May 8 - 40 May 15 - 37 May 22 - 48 May 29 - 23 (Memorial Day) **May Total (5 Weeks) - 189** 

#### Monday night 2M SSB

May 1 - 4 May 8 - 6 May 15 - 6 May 22 - 5 May 29 - 1 (Memorial Day) **May Total (5 Weeks) - 22** 

#### Thursday night 2M FM Simplex

May 4 - 6 May 11 - 8 May 18 - 8 May 25 - 8 **May Total (4 Weeks) - 30** 

Respectfully submitted Rodney N3XG

### DON'T FORGET

- 1. The July LVARC meeting will be **July 11**.
- 2. The next test session will be August 18 in the meeting room at the Tri Clover Fire Company at 6:0p.
- 3. The Women's 5K Classic will be held on Saturday October 7. Volunteers are needed. Contact Mark.
- The Delaware/Lehigh Marathon will be held on November 12. Volunteers are needed. Contact Rod (N3XG)
- 5. Check your license date and don't let it expire.
- 6. The LVARC Monday Night Net is looking for additional Net Control Operators. Contact Rod (N3XG).
- 7. A new GENERAL test is in effect as of July 1, 2023.
- 8. New or replacement LVARC ID badges are available. Contact Mark (AK3M).
- 9. Check into the many nets during the week.
- 10. Send your VOX submission(s) to Mark (AK3M).



A big TNX to the LVARC "AV Team," who attend every meeting and allow members to virtually attend meetings via ZOOM.

The LVARC dedicated AV team members include: Doug (N3WGH) John (AB3LZ)

Scott (KB3YOT)

### Thank them for their dedication!

### Quiz

Its baseball season so it is only fitting to have a baseball quiz.

### Q: How high is a major league pitcher's mound?

- 1. 5 inches
- 2. 8 inches
- 3. 10 inches
- 4.13 inches



Answer on page 18



If you are an ARRL VE and want to see how many test sessions you have attended, go to: <u>http://</u> <u>www.arrl.org/ve-session-counts?state=PA</u>. Anyone can also check the status of any VE.

Remember, any LVARC VE can attend any test session.

### 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).

### DATE CHANGE

**REMEMBER:** Due to the the July 4 holiday, the July LVARC meeting will be held on Tuesday July 11.



#### Late or New Net Check In Tip

If you are a late or new check in, enter the net by:

Click mic and say "net control"...un key and wait (to see if you have not doubled)....when/if no one else transmits than key again and say "Net control this is <u>CALL.</u>"

### **HF Operating Tips**

Listen to some great HF operating tips from an experienced ham!

Go to; https://youtu.be/tx6eUnZjXLU.

**READER SUBMISSION** 

de Larry (NR3R)

### VHF on the High Seas

de Mark (AK3M)

During a trip with the family on the Disney Wish, I spotted what I believe to be the ship's VHF antenna! It was forward (near the bridge) and mounted near the radar antennas. It would make sense as the marine frequencies are in the VHF band. I did not take my HT on the trip as flying with rechargeable batteries can be a problem.

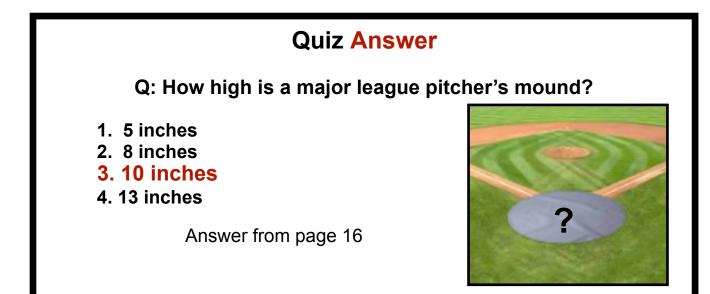




### Its Official!

Its official. I received the **new GENERAL exams** in the U.S. mail today (June 24, 2023).

The new test will take effect July 1, 2023. If testing on that date or later, be sure you are studying the new questions!



### End Fed "Zepp"



The End Fed "Zepp" antenna was named for the Zeppelin Balloon that was used on the aircraft in 1909.

READER SUBMISSION

de Larry (NR3R)

### Lots Happening with the LVARC!

During the Summer season, there is lots happening with the LVARC. The ARES program is strong and Field Day was a big success. Listen to the Monday Night Net, attend meetings and read the VOX to stay current on all LVARC activities!



### 2023 Field Day Pictures

















(Cont. on page 20)





#### (Cont. from page 19)





















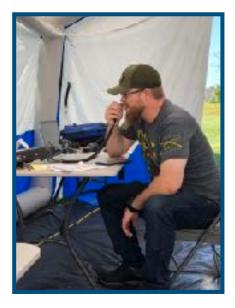
<sup>(</sup>Cont. on page 21)

#### (Cont. from page 20)



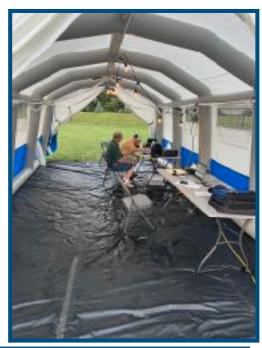








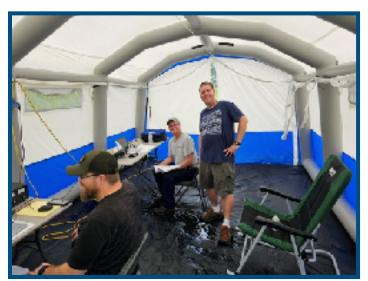
Photos on pages 19-21, courtesy. Chuck (KB3RBW)







#### Photo (Left) courtesy Matthew (KB3UZE)







Photos courtesy Scott (KB3YOT)



#### W3OI Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting June 2023

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

The Meeting was called to order by Rodney Wolfe (RW) @ 738PM

## Secret Word is fieldday 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 26 members in attendance with 8 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 PRESENT

Scott Leichssenring KB3YOT PRESENT

Myles Bodisch KB3ZMA Online

Guests: Bob Melchiorre new member

Nick, KB3WTO

#### Proceedings:

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

Motion to approve was made by Scott KB3YOT and 2nd by Rick KC3EXO Motion Passed = Y

#### Program for tonight: Field Day Preparations

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

Primary expenses noted were Zoom annual fees, and preapproved expenses for the Fusion repeater upgrade.

Primarily income noted that there was membership income, 50/50 income, a \$50 donation, and interest income from the savings account. Expenses of note were the deposit expenses for Winter Field Day

Motion to approve Treasurer's report as read was made by John AB3LZ and 2nd'd by Scotty W3SGT Motion Passed = Y

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### VE & ARES Reports for the June 6 Meeting

#### VE Report

The next test session will be held on August 18, 2023. Please note the location change. The August 18 test session will be held in the LVARC meeting room at the Tri Clover Fire Company. All other information remains unchanged. The doors will be open at 5:45p and the test will begin at 6:00p. Registration is necessary. To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

Remaining test sessions for 2023 include August 18, October 20 and December 15.

#### ARES Report

The Hanover Township 5K was held on June 3. Eleven LVARC operators provided communications support for that event. TNX to all who attended. They are mentioned in the VOX.

The next ARES event will be the Women's 5K Classic on Saturday October 7. Many volunteers will be needed. To volunteer for that event, contact Mark (AK3M). Nov 12, 15-20 operators full marathon, allentown to easton, VIA course, boston and ny qualifier event

#### Communications:

Website:Matt KB3UZE working on maybe allowing individuals to edit their areas of responsibilities, details to follow

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

#### Repeater report: by Rod N3XG

.94 has been solid over the last month

.135 John and Jeff working on the Fusion update, some challenges noted, and details on progress will be forthcoming as soon as these hurdles are crossed

DStar system is rebooted, and remote access is ready to go.

<u>Club Station / Trailer:</u> trailer was out at EMA expo and showcased the club as a resource.

Offerings and options were well received by those in attendance

Trailer was out at Star of Bethehem Childrens Event, on the air and operating in the community

A Chameleon was in use at the EMA expo, inside Stabler arena, and coverage was great for 5 watt power!

Mast is leaking down, quickly, and it needs to be removed to service. Volunteers are looking into options.

Bug Screens were ordered for the doors on the trailer for field day

#### Old Business:

Silent Auction Update: goal before end of summer, working on the legalities for the club

Net control station operators needed for monday night net, Let Rod know if your interested in being a net control operator

We have no Field day coordinator, but youth groups, and visitors have asked about our plans for the event. Contacts are being responded to as they arrive

Congrats to Scott, KB3YOT, the 2m SSB net has been running for a year, 8-12 checkins on Monday night SSB net and the net is heard from center valley to Hazelton!

#### New Business:

Motion to move regularly scheduled July meeting from July 4th to July 11 by Louis KB2VCI 2nd by Rick KC3EXO Motion Passed = Y

Field Day Expenditures: Approved Job Johnny, \$250 with handwash station.Up to \$300

Motioned bu Doug N3WGH 2nd by Scott KB3YOT Passed

Incidentals for Field Day food and supplies not to exceed \$500 Motioned by DOUG N3WGH 2nd bu Chuck W3CDY

Donation to the Fire Department, previously donations were \$200~250

A Motion to donate \$300 to TriClover as a thank you for the use of the station space and meeting room. By Myles KB3ZMA and 2nd by Scotty W3SGT Passed-Y

#### New members applications

#### KA3RES Rodrigo Schilling City: Bethlehem

#### KC3WCB Bob Robert Melchiorre City: Allentown

Motion to accept the new members was made by Scotty W3SGT and 2nd by Scott KB3YOT

#### Passed = Yes

<u>Sick Call:</u> Keep Kenny KC3BLE in your thoughts as he continues his battle. kenny,

#### Good of the Order:

Dayton Observations New yaesu HF rig was priced very competitively at \$900 FT 710AESS clearly targeting the 7300's price and feature set

Ready to install project boards by AF6SA had a antenna Switch Automater and computer Rotor Controller for very nice prices and easy projects to pull off...

Kenwood thd75A was shown under glass, slightly tweaked update to the 74A

Upcoming Hamfests of note:

July 1st firecracker in harrisburg http://www.W3uu.org

July 2nd plaines PA HTTP://MURGASARC.ORG

July 16th sussex NJ http://www.scarcnj.org/hamfest.html

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

Motion Passed = Y

Meeting adjourned at 839PM

#### Respectfully Submitted Steve Olock KS3RO, Secretary

On The Air Nets for W3OI

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



With sadness, **Kenny Bass** (**KC3BLE**) passed on June 28, 2023.

Kenny was an active LVARC member and participated in all the LVARC ARES events. He was also responsible for the successful LVARC 50/50 program at the monthly meetings.

Kenny was the 2017 Pres Schuer Award recipient!

He will be missed.



### Field Day 2023 Musings

de Rod (N3XG)



There are many ways to measure success at Field Day. How many contacts, how many Sections, how many States, DX Stations, or operators participated? You might gauge success by asking how many antennas and radios were in operation, or how many club members pounded brass and broke through pile-ups.

I prefer to view Field Day through the lens of an emergency exercise. In which success is measured by meeting stated objectives and reacting to both planned and unplanned operational injects.

Based on that definition, how did we, as a club, do?

Field Day 2023 had a decent showing of club members, and members of served agencies. We were able to set up both club and member assets with no difficulty with plenty of spare time for testing and working both POTA and SOTA stations. Contacts were made in voice and digital across North America and the Pacific (Hawaii) within the operating period, demonstrating that not only can we operationalize our assets and technology, but can exchange quality messages with other stations.

There is another way to measure success. That is by the smiles on faces. This is by far more important than any other metric. Smiles when a new skill is learned, information is exchanged, friendships are made, and challenges are met. By all accounts, there were many smiles on many faces.

Although Field Day is "Not a Contest", there is a score associated with this activity. After the dust settles and ARRL publishes scores, take a look and see how we compared to other clubs our size and calibre. But always keep in mind your own experiences for they are the true measure of success. Teamwork makes the Dreamwork and Comparison is always the thief of joy.

73 de Rodney N3XG

### **10** Highlights In This VOX

- 1. The July LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM AND In Person on **Tuesday July 11** 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. Hanover Township 5K review.
- 8. August 18 test session change.
- 9. Want a ham radio license plate frame?
- 10. New GENERAL test in effect.



