

# The V X



#### The Official Newsletter of the

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

#### 2024 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)

#### **2024 Board of Governors**

John Bartos - AB3LZ - e03145jab@gmail.com Phil Bigg - KB3HMK - philbert17@ptd.net

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 **January** LVARC **m**eeting will be held on **Wednesday January 10**, 2024 via **ZOOM AND In-Person** at **7:30p**.

Program: WINLINK

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.** 

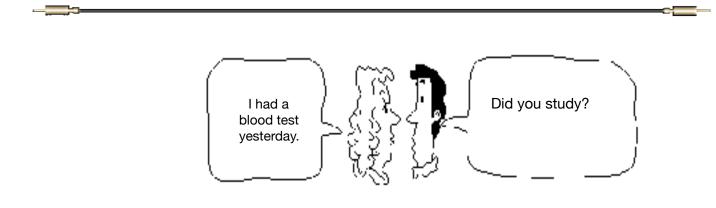
Contact Mark Miller (AK3M) at <a href="mailto:AK3M@rcn.com">AK3M@rcn.com</a> for details.

#### **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

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

# **Up Coming 2024 LVARC Programs**

January 2 - WINLINK



# Do you remember ... "The Pet Rock"?

Send your "What Ever Happened To/ Do you Remember...," to Mark (AK3M) for

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

Check into one or all!

#### **LVARC 2024 Test Session Dates**

**2024** 



February 16
April 19
June 21
August 16
October 18
December 20





"Look at January from a new perspective, and find the potential within you."

# This Month in Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	LVARC Net 7:30p N3XG 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	2	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	5	6
7	LVARC Net 7:30p  KB3YOT  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	9	LVARC Meeting 7:30p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	17	13
14	LVARC Net 7:30p  KB3UZE  2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	LVARC "Hands On Night"	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	19	20
21	LVARC Net 7:30p KC3HWD 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	23	D-Star Net 7:00p	2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00	26	LVARC Winter Field Day
LVARC Winter Field Day	LVARC Net 7:30p N3RPV 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p	30	D-Star Net 7:00p		anuary 2024	Ŷ



# 2024 LVARC Dues Now Pay \$20 2024 dues:

- 1. Pay Paul (N0KIA) at a meeting
- 2. Pay via the LVARC website and PayPal
- 3. Pay via U.S.Mail to Paul (N0KIA)
- 4. Use the form on page 15 of this VOX

### 2024 Resolutions?

Do your 2024 resolutions include the LVARC? Maybe you will attend more meetings, run for office, volunteer as a Monday Night Net control operator, volunteer to help at Field Day, volunteer for an ARES activity or more.

Your club needs your participation!



### Its that time of Year!

Keep your HTs charged in case of bad weather and/or power outages. You may need to call for help or assist someone calling for help. You can also monitor public service frequencies to keep informed of current situations. Have gas for your generator if you have one.







#### Do you know this person?

(Answer on page 9)



# Winter WX Supplies to Keep In Your Car

Its that time of year when travel can be challenging or even dangerous. You can minimize your dangers by carrying appropriate supplies in your trunk. These items may include:

- 1. Cell phone and charger
- 2. First-aid kit
- 3. Flares or reflective triangles
- 4. Jumper cables/jump start battery
- 5. Flashlight with extra batteries
- 6. Ice scraper, snow brush

- 7. Snow shovel
- 8. Blanket(s)
- 9. HT
- 10. HT charger
- 11. Food/water
- 12. Flashing warning light



A 12v flashing amber warning light that could be used to warn other cars if you break down on the road. *It could also be used on your car in an ARES event.*This light is available from Amazon for \$18.99. There are many others available from other sources.

Red and blue flashing lights are reserved for emergency vehicles but an amber/yellow light is permitted as a warning light.







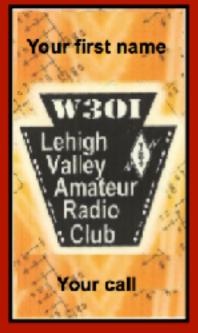
# **W301 Winter Field Day**

The LVARC/W3OI Winter Field day will take place on January 27 and 28 2024 at Lake Nockamixon. The club has secured cabin #5 at the lake with heat, running water and all the comforts of home!

See directions on page 17

Come out and support your club!

Don't wait for ARES season to begin. If you are an LVARC member and need an LVARC ID badge or replacement, contact Mark (AK3M).



# 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
- 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.

#### **2024 Scheduled ARES Events**

**April** — St. Luke's Half Marathon

June — Hanover Township Spring 5K

October — Women's 5K Classic

November — St. Luke's Marathon/Race Fest



Specific dates to be announced on the Monday Net, at meetings and in the VOX.

# **November 2023 Net report**

de Rod (N3XG)

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

11/6 - 39

11/13 - 42

11/20 - 40

11/27 - 41

Total November Check-in's - 162 (4 weeks)

#### **LVARC Monday Night 2m SSB Net**

11/6 - 7

11/13 - 7

11/20 - 7

11/27 - 7

Total November Check-in's - 28 (4 weeks)

### **LVARC Thursday Night 2m FM Simplex Net**

11/2 - 9

11/9 - 8

11/16 - 5

11/23 - THANKSGIVING

11/30-4

Total November Check-in's - 26 (4 weeks)





The LVARC is looking for Monday Night Net Operators. **Your help is needed.** To volunteer, contact Rod (N3XG) at <a href="mailto:n3xg.radio@gmail.com">n3xg.radio@gmail.com</a>.





#### 2023 LVARC ARES and VE Summaries



#### **2023 ARES Summary**

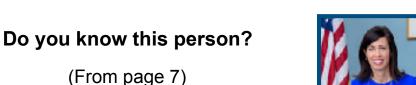
During 2023, the LVARC provided communications support for **four events**. They included the St. Luke's Half Marathon (April), Hanover Township 5K (June), Women's 5K Classic (October) and the St. Luke's RaceFest Marathon (November).

A total of 52 operators participated in the four 2023 ARES events. Nineteen of the 52 operators (33) participated in more than one event.

### **2023 VE Summary**

During 2023, the LVARC held **five test sessions** (February, April, August, October and December). A total of eighteen were tested and the LVARC welcomed **seventeen** new hams to the Lehigh Valley.







Her name is Jessica Rosenworcel and she is the current FCC chairman.





Famous Ham

**Gene Shepard - KZ0RS** (Author of A Christmas Story)



(Some may be SK's and the calls may have been expired or given to new hams)

**READER SUBMISSION** 

Submitted by Larry (NR3R)



# How to Renew Your LVARC 2024 Dues from the LVARC Website Using PayPal

First, go to the <u>w3oi.org</u> webpage and click on "**Member Login**". Use your username "KB3MJZ" and your password. If you forgot, just click to change it.

Once you're logged into the website, hover over "Members Area" and click on "My Profile." Under My Profile, click on "Complete Payment" and then "Click to Proceed to PayPal". That should take you to the PayPal page to renew membership. (de Paul (NOKIA)

# **2024 LVARC Board Members**

At the December 5 2023 meeting, the following LVARC members were elected to the 2024 Board of Governors. **Congratulations** to:

John Bartos (AB3LZ) Scott Leichssenring (KB3YOT Phil Bigg (KB3HMK) Mark Miller (AK3M)
Rick Pearce (KC3EXO) Rick Pearce - KC3EXO

Officers and Board member's contact information is listed on the first page of every issue of the VOX. Feel free to contact any officer or board member with questions of if you need help.



#### **New LVARC Member**

At the December 5 2023 meeting, a new applicant was voted in as a new LVARC member. The LVARC welcomes **Catherine Dibble** (**KC3HMN**) to the club!





# Listen to HF on Your Computer or Phone

Listen to the following to hear HF on your phone or computer. Go to <a href="https://hose.brandmeister.network">hose.brandmeister.network</a>.

**READER SUBMISSION** 

Submitted by Larry (NR3R)

### **Military Radios**

The context is that one of my colleagues at the university had a profile written detailing his military career. I know my friend as Dr. Tom Craig, Associate Professor, but turns out he was Sgt. Tom Craig, a radio operator in the Marine Corps in the late 80s. I asked about how his military radio operating might related to amateur radio and he sent me the attached photos along with this text:

These were the main things we used: the PRC77 radio and RC292 antenna.

The types of radios we used back in the late 1980's were probably very close to what (I think) ham operators still use – it was HF / VHF / UHF frequencies and mostly AM? It's been a long time and I never really got the scientific aspects of it. We mostly were tasked with determining what our overall radio network needed to look like (command posts and outlying stations) and then set it up, get everyone connected, and then tearing it down to move to another location. It was fun to do. When I was getting out in the early 90s the technology was changing rapidly from old radios (which had been around since Korea and Vietnam eras) to the early versions of cell phones and email. Not sure if you ever heard of "Banyan Vines" but that was what the newer guys were learning in school – I seem to recall that was one of the early forms of email. Good times!





**READER SUBMISSION** 

Submitted by Eric (N3EJH)

# 2023 LVARC Awards and Acknowledgments

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Jeff Bauer** (WA3PNY) who received the 2023 Pres Schuler Award! That award recognizes "*Excellence In Service*" to amateur radio and the LVARC. Jeff was chosen by the LVARC members.



2023 Pres Schuler Award Winner



John Bartos (AB3LZ) and Doug McNair (N3WGH) also received their Pres Schuler plaques at the December 5 2023 meeting in recognition of their winning the Pres Schuler award in 2021 and 2022 respectively.



2021 Pres Schuler Award Winner



2022 Pres Schuler Award Winner





Rod (N3XG) also gave *special recognition* to **Myles Bodish** (**KB3ZMA**) and **Doug** (**N3WGH**) for their service to the club in 2023!

#### **Proud of Your Shack?**

Are you proud of your radio shack? Send a picture and description of your shack to Mark (AK3M) to be included in the VOX!





#### When Do the Days Begin to Get Longer?

Days start getting longer after the winter Solstice (Dec. 21).



#### Check the following to be sure you are up to date:

- 1. Expiration of your amateur license.
- 2. Expiration of your VE certification.
- 3. Your personal information on the LVARC website under "My Profile."
- 4. Your correct address on your amateur license.
- 5. Update any changes with the FCC.

If you need VE hours, you are welcome to attend any test session. Be sure to update your information with the LVARC, FCC, ARRL or any other organization.

# **December 15 2023 Test Session Report**

At the December 15, 2023 test session, 2 tested and 1 passed. **CONGRATULATIONS** to: **Randall Miller** (**KC1MSA**) who upgraded to Extra! Randall's upgrade was posted Monday December 18 2023.

VEs in attendance included **Mark** (AK3M), **Walt** (KE3SP), **Doug** (N3WGH) and **Rich** (KC3VAX). **Bob** (WB3JSZ) attended to observe as he is soon to complete his VE certification.

#### **Radio Gift?**

If you received something radio related for Christmas, share it with the group by submitting a picture and/or text for inclusion in the VOX.



#### 2024 LVARC EVENTS

January 10 - LVARC meeting January 27 & 28 - Winter Field Day February 6 - LVARC meeting February 16 - LVARC test session



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

#### **New or Upgrade Your License!**

Do you want to upgrade your license or do you know someone who wants to get their Technician class license? The LVARC can help!

The club holds test sessions the third Friday of every **other** month:

#### **LVARC 2024 Test Session Dates**



February 16 August 16 April 19 October 18 June 21 December 20



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





This is **YOUR** newsletter! Send your submission to the VOX to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com. Your submission can contain graphics and/ or text.

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

# **Another Way to Renew Your 2024 LVARC Dues**

In case you need another way to renew your 2024 LVARC dues, print and send the form below.

#### Membership Form for the

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W30I)

Use this form for NEW or RENEWAL membership

Mail this form with check payable to the LVARC

Name							
Address Number							
City	State	Zip					
Home Phone	Cell Phone						
Email		-					
Call License Class							
(Check one)							
Regular Membership - \$20.00	o	W301					
Family Membership - \$25.00		Valley Amateur					
Student Membership - \$15.0	00	· Club					
One Year Free Membership if	One Year Free Membership if tested with the LVARC						
and earned Tech - \$0.00	0						
Lifetime Membership - \$500.	.00						
Total Enclosed							
Send completed form to:							
Paul Ryan (N0KIA)							

January 2023

5814 Lindbergh St. Orefield, PA. 18069

# The LVARC 2023 Holiday Party

The LVARC 2023 holiday party was a big success! It was well attended and there was plenty of food. An HT was the door prize and was won by Scotty (W3SGT). All had a good time.



**December 19 2023** 

# **Directions to the LVARC Winter 2024 Field Day Site**

To Park Office from Harrisburg PA, Allentown PA or Northern NJ - Interstate 78 E or W to PA Route 412 (Bethlehem/Hellertown exit).

Route 412 south to PA Route 563. Route 563 South to main park entrance and office (about 5 miles) on left.

From Philadelphia: Route 309 North to Perkasie exit - PA Route 563. Take Route 563 North approx 5 miles to PA Route 313. Go Left at light onto 313 West.

Go about 1 mile. Turn Right, staying on Route 563 North. Go 4.5 miles to main entrance and office on right.

Alternate route from Philadelphia area: Take Schuylkill Expressway and/or Blue Route (I-476)to PA Turnpike North (Exit 25A). Take PA Turnpike North (I-476) to Exit 32 (Quakertown).

Go Left at light after toll booth onto PA Route 663 N. Follow to Route 309 in Quakertown. PA 663 ends at PA 309. Continue straight - you are now on PA Route 313 E.

Go through town (approx 5 miles) to PA Route 563 N.

Go Left on 563 North. Go 4.5 miles to main park entrance and office on right.

The main park entrances are on the north side of the lake off of Route 563. The Cabins are located on the south side of the lake off of Ridge Road (South Park Road).





# **LVARC to Develop Elmer Program?**

We are looking for mentors (elmers) that are available to help guide new members and new hams. What are the qualifications? A desire to help share the joys of amateur radio and a willingness to meet with a new ham / new member to help them along and answer questions. What type of information do you think you might be asked to share? How about decoding hamspeak, and helping with radio selection and programming for newly licensed hams. Assisting with the first QSO, and coaching with net procedures. If you remember when someone helped point you in the right direction, it's time to pay it forward. Reach out to Rodney N3XG to volunteer as a subject matter expert, or a welcoming friendly person.

Keeping that in mind, how about a "welcome" net on Tuesday nights not occupied by club meetings. The proposed net would meet on 94, follow a round-table format, and be for members to seek guidance. Who would host this type of net? Hopefully, you just read the previous paragraph and are now thinking, "I wouldn't mind taking a turn hosting a round-table net". These nets are fun, informative, and while you may pick a subject before it starts, you may not need to do that at all, because they organically tend to move in the direction of the net participants. And that is the entire idea. More to follow.... **Stay tuned at the January meeting.** 



**READER SUBMISSION** 

Rod (N3XG)

# **December 2023 Net Report**

### Monday night ARES / ACS Net (94)

12/4 - 42

12/11 - 43

12/18 - 41

12/25 - 18

Total December Check-in's - 144 (4 weeks)

#### Monday night 2m SSB Net

12/4 - 6

12/11 - 7

12/18 - 8

12/25 - No net

Total December Check-in's - 21 (3 weeks)

# Thursday night 2m FM simplex

12/7 - 8

12/14 - 8

12/21 - 7

12/28 - 9



Respectfully submitted, Rodney N3XG



# W3OI Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting December 2023 12/05/2023

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom
The Meeting was called to order by Rodney Wolfe (RW) @ 731

Secret Word is Mistletoe and needs to be emailed to KS3RO@ARRL.NET 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 yes vote Online was interactive with full communications for both local and remotes

#### **ATTENDEES**

There were a total of 28 members in attendance with 5 remote members (as per the email method) and 23 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 REMOTE

**Guests**: Bobby Lee

#### **Proceedings:**

A motion was made to approve the December 2023 Meeting minutes as published in the December 2023 VOX newsletter. Motion to approve was made Scott KB3YOT and 2nd by Rick KC3EXO Motion Passed =Y

#### **Program for tonight:**

Future meeting topics and educational content

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

No out of the ordinary expenses, primary income is membership renewals

Motion to approve Treasurer's report as read was made by Dan KC3HWD and 2nd by Walt KE3SP

Motion Passed = Y

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### **ARES Report**

The last ARES event of 2023 was RaceFest and was held on November 12, 2023. Thirteen LVARC operators provided communications support for that event. 995 participants in the race Scheduled ARES events for 2024 include:

April — St. Luke's Half Marathon

June — Hanover Township Spring 5K October — Women's 5K Classic

November — St. Luke's Marathon/Race Fest

Specific dates will be sent as these events near.

#### **VE Report**

The next VE test session will be held at Hanover Elementary School on Friday December 15, 2023.

There will be 2023 ARES and VE review reports available after the December 15 2023 test session and will be presented at the January 2 2024 meeting and in the January 2024 VOX.

#### **Communications:**

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

Some issues were noted on the calendar system that was addressed by upgrading the calendar plugin that we use on the website. That expense was covered by Matt, N3VAN

#### Repeater report: by Rod N3XG

Some voter issues are noted on the .94 repeater

And the repeaters are experiencing IP reassignment so some onsite work may be needed to address this Club Station / Trailer:

Towing help is necessary for the single axle trailer, a vehicle capable of handling a single axle trailer without brakes and an experienced operator would be the minimum requirements, please contact Rod with any questions

Mast tuneup plan is developing, 2 mast seals are issues, discussed a full rebuild

Station work was completed, Doug N3WGH and Rick KC3EXO worked on the roof antennas,

#### **Old Business:**

Net control operators are needed for Monday night net, please contact Rod, N3XG if you're willing to learn and help out the running of the net.

Winter Field Day will be Jan 27, 28th and we will be at Noxamixon State Park in a climate controlled cabin.

Scott KB3YOT: Pot luck meals, for Friday night, and Breakfast and lunch for Saturday. Details to follow

POTA activation of the park is planned for both Friday and Saturday And run as long as possible with regards to manpower and checkout times

Food: Club will provide some food and Potluck by attendees Club will be operating 2i, QRP, and on Batteries Out by 10 on sunday Linens not provided, communicate with Scott, KB3YOT as to lodging arrangements.

A Dinner Night/Beast Feast at Golden Corral for February, details to follow

Dec 19th holiday party in lieu of the Hands On Night, Food will be bring as you wish, spouses etc are invited.

#### **New Business:**

#### **New Member**

First Name: **Catherine** Last Name: **Dibble** Callsign (again): **KC3HMN** City: Orwigsburg

Approval for Winter Field Day Food Money, Below \$200 for food Motion by Myles KB3ZMA, 2nd by Rick KC3EXO Motion Passed = Y

An election was held for Board of Governor positions, The following members in good standing were elected for a 1 year position as W3OI board of Governors

Rick Pearce KC3EXO
Phil Bigg KB3HMK
John Bartos AB3LZ
Mark Miller AK3M
Scott Leichssenring KB3YOT

#### Sick Call:

None Noted.

Good of the Order:

Meeting adjourned at 820 PM, Motioned by Scotty W3SGT and 2nd by Matt KB3UZE Respectfully Submitted Steve Olock KS3RO, Secretary

The Pres Shuler award, in recognition of service and support above and beyond the call of duty to the club and its members was awarded to Jeff Bauer, WA3PNY for his support of the repeaters, of the digitization of the same, his unending technical support to and all who are in need of that support. Well done Jeff!

#### 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

# 10 Highlights in This VOX

 The January LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM AND In Person on Wednesday <u>January</u> 10 at 7:30p.



- 2. Need an LVARC ID badge?
- 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. 2024 LVARC dues are due.
- 6. 2023 ARES and VE review.
- 7. Monday Night Net control operators needed.
- 8. New Board members for 2024.
- 9. 2023 Pres Schuler award winner.
- 10. Want to help develop an LVARC Elmer program?

