



# The VOX



The Official Newsletter of the

**L**ehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub - W3OI / 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.**

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

**Many club announcements will be heard there**

The **March** LVARC meeting will be held on **Tuesday**  
**March 5, 2024** via **ZOOM AND In-Person** at **7:30p.**

Program: *End fed antenna builds and balun builds.* - Matt (N3VAN)

*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](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) for details.

### **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

If you have questions, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com)

### **Up Coming 2024 LVARC Programs/events**

**March 5** - LVARC meeting - **Program** - End-fed antennas / Balun - N3VAN

**April 28** - St. Luke's Half Marathon



Do you remember ...  
“A Howdy Doody Puppet?”

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)

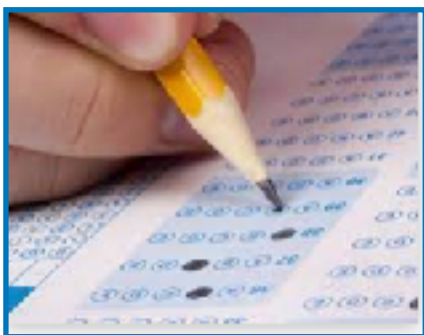


### LVARC Nets

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

*Check into one or all!*

### LVARC 2024 Test Session Dates






**2024**

April 19  
June 21  
August 16  
October 18  
December 20

*Check the expiration date of your VE certificate. If you need to renew, feel free to attend any LVARC test session.*

# This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>March</h1>					1	2	
3	<div style="background-color: #ff4500; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b> </div> <p><b>KB3UZE</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-size: small;">                     2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p                 </div>	<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>LVARC Meeting 7:30p</b> </div>	6	<div style="background-color: #800080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>D-Star Net 7:00p</b> </div>	<div style="background-color: #ffa500; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                     2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00                 </div>	8	 <p style="color: green; text-align: center;">Turn clocks <b>AHEAD 1 hour</b> at 2:00a</p>
10	<div style="background-color: #ff4500; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b> </div> <p><b>KC3HWD</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-size: small;">                     2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p                 </div>	12	13	<div style="background-color: #800080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>D-Star Net 7:00p</b> </div>	<div style="background-color: #ffa500; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                     2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00                 </div>	16	
 <p style="color: green; text-align: center;">St. Patrick's Day</p>	<div style="background-color: #ff4500; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b> </div> <p><b>N3RPV</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-size: small;">                     2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p                 </div>	<p style="color: green; text-align: center;">First day of Spring</p> 	20	<div style="background-color: #800080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>D-Star Net 7:00p</b> </div>	<div style="background-color: #ffa500; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                     2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00                 </div>	23	
24	<div style="background-color: #ff4500; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>LVARC Net 7:30p</b> </div> <p><b>WW3TRG</b></p> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-size: small;">                     2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p                 </div>	26	27	<div style="background-color: #800080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>D-Star Net 7:00p</b> </div>	<div style="background-color: #ffa500; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                     2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00                 </div>	30	
 <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Easter</p>	<h1>2024</h1>						

**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](mailto:n3xg.radio@gmail.com).

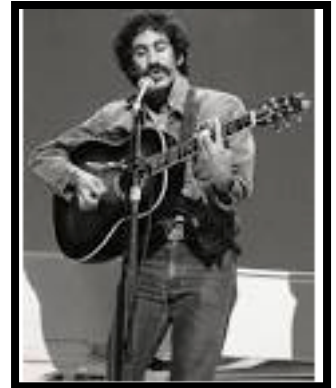
## Famous Ham

**Jim Croce (WN3OQW)**

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

READER SUBMISSION

Submitted by Larry (NR3R)



## 2024 LVARC EVENTS

**March 5 - LVARC meeting**

**April 2 - LVARC meeting**

**April 19 - LVARC Test Session**

**April 28 - St. Luke's Half Marathon**

**May 7 - LVARC meeting**

**June 21 - LVARC Test Session**

**June 22-23 - Field Day**

**August 15 - LVARC Test Session**



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

## The LVARC Has Strong VE and ARES Programs!

de Mark (AK3M)

If you wish to be on the LVARC's VE team, be sure I have your email address and phone number. You are welcome to attend ANY or ALL test sessions.

If you wish to participate in any ARES programs, email me when operators are being solicited.



**Your first name**

**Your call**

## LVARC ID Badge

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

I will:

1. 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.

## 2024 ARES Scheduled Events

- April 28** — St. Luke's Half Marathon
- June 8** — Hanover Township Spring 5K
- October** — Women's 5K Classic
- November** — St. Luke's Marathon/Race Fest



***Specific dates to be announced.***

## Mark Your Calendar!

The St. Luke's Half Marathon will be held on **Sunday April 28**. ARES volunteers are needed. Check your calendar and volunteer early.

To volunteer your communication expertise, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).



Following is a QSL card to W3OI from KE8RV. This station was worked at the 2024 Winter Field Day event (January 27).

The QSL card is enclosed in a blue border. At the top left, "KE8RV" is written in large blue letters, with "EM89jw" below it. To the right is a blue snowflake icon. Further right, "WFDA" is written in purple. In the center is a cartoon polar bear wearing a blue scarf, a headset, and carrying a radio pack on its back, skiing on yellow skis. To the right of the bear is a blue outline of the state of Ohio containing the text "Madison County Amateur Radio Club", a red antenna icon, and the number "147.285". Below the Ohio map is the text "Excellence In Communications Since 1972". At the bottom center, "WINTER FIELD DAY" is written in large blue letters. The bottom section contains call details: "TO W3OI", "BAND 20m RX: 20m", "MODE SSB", "FREQ 14.218 Mhz", "FR KE8RV", "WHEN 27 Jan 2024 21:50 UTC", "RSTS", and "FROM KE8RV via N8CWU QSL Mgr. Hope to work you again soon".

## “Go Bag” Contents

NEW FEATURE

In the February 2024 issue of the VOX, LVARC members were asked to send me the contents of their, “Go Bag.” The following members responded. Their shared items may help you outfit your bag.



### de Larry (NR3R)

I.D. badge	Yaesu VX7 HT with spare batteries and Heil head set
Vest	iCom V8000 2 meter radio
Rain slicker	Small foldable headphones
Umbrella	Mag mount 2 meter antenna
Fisher water proof pen	10 Amp Hour Lithium ion battery
Write in the Rain note book	Spare/emergency battery box with 40 Amp Hour Lith ion battery with DC ports, Power poles, USB's and AC inverter
Small flash Light	
Small pocket knife	(not in box but suggest to have a cell phone)

Items are changed depending on the event

***You can still send your “Go Bag” contents for inclusion in future issues of the VOX!***

## Field Day 2024



Field Day 2024 is not that far away! Save **June June 22-23** on your calendar. Dan (KC3HWD) has volunteered to chair the LVARC Field Day committee. Send your plans for participating in the LVARC Field Day event. Dan needs to know who will be helping to set up and tear down, those who will be taking food etc. Dan can be contacted at: **longodg99@gmail.com.**





## New Extra Class Test Questions

There will be a NEW Extra Class Question Pool effective July 1 2024. If you are planning to test AFTER July 1. Current Extra questions stay in effect until then.



## Your First Amateur Radio!

(de Mark - AK3M)

**NEW FEATURE**



**W**e all remember our first pet, our first car or our first love but **do you remember your first amateur radio?** Maybe you had a tube radio, a transceiver, a separate receiver and transmitter, an HT or a newer radio, VHF/UHF or HF.

**Share your first ham radio with the group.** Send a picture and/or description of your **first** amateur radio to me for inclusion in the VOX. You need not still have the radio to remember it and send it to me for the VOX.

My first amateur radio was a Heathkit HW-16 CW transceiver (pictured above). I built it from a kit in 1968. It was CW ONLY, crystal controlled transmit frequencies and 75 watts output. There was a VFO available and the radio's maximum power output was 90 watts but both the VFO and 90 watts were not available to an operator with a Novice license.

My first contact was on CW and my first station worked was in Minot, N.D. using a homemade dipole.

I remember that the operator was very patient and kind to a new Novice and adjusted his code speed to match mine! He knew I was a Novice as that was reflected in my call. My call was WN3KIF, the "N" meaning Novice. After passing the General test, the "N" was replaced by an, "A." At that time, one had only two years to upgrade from Novice or lose his license.

A good source for amateur radio pictures is: <https://www.rigpix.com>.

## Are You 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!



### NEW FEATURE

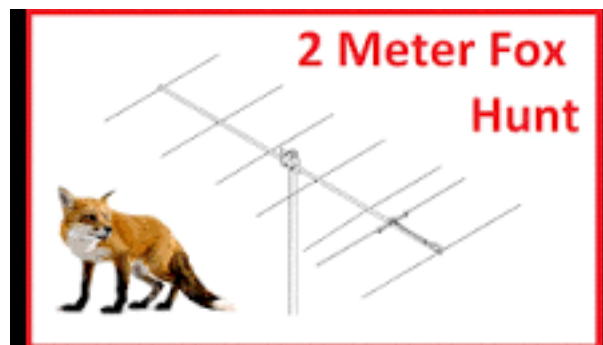


1. The LVARC Monday Night Net is looking for Net Control operators. To volunteer, contact Rod (N3XG) at [n3xg.radio@gmail.com](mailto:n3xg.radio@gmail.com).
2. The first ARES event of 2024 is the St. Luke's Half Marathon. It will take place on Sunday April 28. To volunteer your participation, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).

## 2024 Summer Fox Hunt

A Fox Hunt is being planned for this Summer. If you want to participate, you may want to begin to build or buy a direction finding antenna for this event soon.

Listen to the Monday Night Net, read the VOX or attend a meeting for specific information.



# January 2024 Net Report

*Off to a great start!*

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## Monday Night ARES / ACS Net

JAN 1 - 27  
JAN 8 - 50  
JAN 15 - 43  
JAN 22 - 43i  
JAN 29 - 48

Total January Check-in's - 211 (5 weeks)

## Monday Night 2m SSB Net

JAN 1 - NO NET / NEW YEAR's Holiday  
JAN 8 - 7  
JAN 15 - 6  
JAN 22 - 6  
JAN 29 - 7

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



## Thursday Night 2m Simplex Net

JAN 4 - 9  
JAN 11 - 11  
JAN 18 - 10  
JAN 25 - 10

Total January Check-in's - 40 (4 weeks)

de Rod (N3XG)

# W3OI Amateur Radio Club February b2024 Meeting Minutes

February 6 2024

## Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

The Meeting was called to order by Rodney Wolfe (RW) @ 730

Secret Word is Hamspeak and needs to be emailed to [philbert17@ptd.net](mailto:philbert17@ptd.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 29 members in attendance with 11 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 ABSENT

Board of Governors:

Rick Pearce KC3EXO PRESENT

Mark Miller AK3M PRESENT

Scott Leichssenring KB3YOT PRESENT

John Bartos AB3LZ PRESENT

Phil Bigg KB3HMK PRESENT

**Guests:** Jim Powers – KC3RMT

Scott Tyson – N3ATQ

## **Proceedings:**

A motion was made to approve the January 2023 Meeting minutes as published in the February 2024 VOX newsletter. Motion to approve was made by Rick (KC3EXO) and 2nd by Dan (KC3HWD)

Motion Passed = Y

**Program for tonight:** HamSpeak by N3XG

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

Paul presented the treasurer's report for the month of January 2024

Motion to approve Treasurer's report as read was made by Mike (KC3UCX) and 2nd by Scott (KB3YOT)

Motion Passed = Y

## **Committee Reports:**

### **VE Report**

There will be a test session on Friday February 16 at Hanover Elementary School at 6:00p. At this writing, two are scheduled to test. The next test session will be April 19.

### **ARES Report**

The first ARES event of 2024 will be the St. Luke's Half Marathon. That event will take place on **Sunday April 28**. About 17 volunteers are needed.

After the St. Luke's, Half Marathon, the second ARES event will be the Hanover Township 5K on Saturday June 8. To help with any or all ARES events, contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com).

## **Communications:**

Website: Matt KB3UZE is responsible for the website and interacting with the board about it. There is a known issue of the members area on the website. It has been reported and will be looked into.

**Repeater report:** by Rod N3XG. The 94 and 135 repeaters are working. There is an issue with the D-Star repeater. The issue will be looked into.

**Club Station / Trailer:** Due to the winter months, not much happening. Will start back up in the spring.

**Old Business:**

Rod is looking for members to be Elmers for the club. Some members have already said they would help out.

Rod is looking at doing a roundtable net on Tuesday nights excluding meeting night and hands on night. He is looking for members to be NCS operators. More info to follow.

**Winter Field Day:** This year's Winter Field Day was a huge success. Rod thanked Scott (KB3YOT) for organizing it. The event was held at Nockamixon State Park. Scott invited the rangers to stop by, but they didn't. There were also two other radio clubs there for the event. Those in attendance got to meet them. The club will look at a bigger cabin for next year. The club made 49 contacts. We also did a POTA activation Friday night and Saturday morning. Many contacts were made. The event was operated on all battery power. Will be looking at doing it again next year.

**Beast Feast:** The dinner get together is back after not being able to have it due to Covid. The event is February 20 at 6:30 PM. It will be at the Golden Corral in Whitehall. It's on the grounds of the Lehigh Valley Mall. All members and family are welcome.

**New Business:**

Rod announced that Dan (KC3HWD) will be the Field Day coordinator for this year. He is looking for members to help with operating, food, set up and tear down. It will be held at the same location last year. If interested in helping Dan out, please contact him.

**New Members:**

K3HDG Eric Harding Nazareth 18064

KB3ZXW Brian Wise Walnutport 18088

A motion was made by Paul (N0KIA) and 2nd by Dan (KC3HWD) to accept the new members.

Motion Passed: Y

**Sick Call:** Nothing to report

### Good of the Order:

Recently, a woman whose husband became a silent key is looking at selling his equipment. Most of the equipment is HT's. If interested in what she has, see Mark (AK3M) after the meeting or contact him.

It was discussed at Winter Field Day about selling one of the clubs HF rig and purchasing a newer one. This will be a discussion for the general membership and at a board meeting.

Next month's presentation will be Matt (N3VAN). His topic will be "End Fed Antennas and Baluns". He will also be doing the Hands On Night which will be building a balun. There will be a small cost for the Hands On Night for the materials. Please let him know if you will be attending the HON so we can have enough material. He will have more info at the March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM, Motioned to approve by: Scott (KB3YOT) and 2nd by Rick (KC3EXO)

***Respectfully Submitted Phillip Bigg KB3HMK, Interim Secretary for tonight's meeting.***

### On The Air Nets for Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club

Monday 730PM 146.94 Club Net, Formal Alphabetical (suffix) Checkin,

Monday 815 2M SSB Simplex 144.250 casual round robin net following the monday night net

Tuesday, Time TBD 146.94 repeater casual round robin net on Non Meeting nights

Wed 7PM Dstar / digital d-rats / 147.7125

Thursday 8PM FM Simplex 147.420 5-8

*"When one flower blooms, spring awakens everywhere."* - John Donohue



## Radios For Sale from an Estate



Radio Shack Scanner - \$60.00  
Kenwood TH-D72 - \$400.00



GRECOM EZ SCAN DIGITAL - \$375.00  
YAESU FT 60 - \$144.00

**FOR  
SALE**  
kfrunzi@comcast.net



ICOM 1C91AD - \$199.00  
ICOM1052 - \$199.00



Looks like these accessories  
belong to an ICOM

Contact Karen Myers - [kfrunzi@comcast.net](mailto:kfrunzi@comcast.net)





## February 2024 Test Session

The February 16, 2024 LVARC test session, was moved back a week and was held on Friday February 23 as the school was closed on the 16th date.

At that test session, 3 tested and 3 passed.

VEs in attendance included Mark (**AK3M**), Walt (**KE3SP**), Rich (**KC3VAY**) and new VE, Bob (**WB3JSZ**). The next scheduled test session will be held on April 19, 2024.

## ARES Information

***“I want to volunteer for an ARES event but I don’t know what to expect or what to do.”***

In case you need a review of ARES for 2024 and what you need to do when volunteering for an ARES event, download a powerpoint file from the club’s website. You can download that file at:

<https://www.w3oi.org/past-presentations/>

select

**ARES. Mark Miller. AK3M**



ARES, Mark Miller, AK3M



PPTX



## New LVARC Net!

A **NEW NET** is in the works. Listen to the Monday Night Net, read the VOX and attend meetings to find out more information.

# For Sale



***All items used very little, smoke free environment and in excellent condition...***

\***Mirage B34-G** VHF/SSB/CW amplifier. Perfect to bump up 5 watts to 35 watts \$175. (new \$250)

\***MFJ902** 80-10 meters Travel Tuner \$50. (new \$130)

\***AIM Model 38-384** regulated 4 Amp power supply \$50. (Ebay \$100)

\* **End Fed antenna** 20 meters \$15.

\* **Yo-Yo 'tenna** 2 reels, portable dipole \$15.

\***MFJ 1621** Portable antenna \$50. (new \$120)

\***MFJ 1795** HF Vertical antenna. Included the MFJ 1902 radial plate. Perfect for portable or HOA. \$75. (normally \$230).

\***High Sierra Side Kick** motorized screw driver antenna (similar to the Tarheel) with tripod and 2 capacity hats also coax cable with power wires inside and switch for easy tuning all included. Use portable with tripod or mobile \$350.

\***Sound Studio Powered Speakers HS-668** (2 to sell) Speakers will also play from a thumb drive thru the USB port. Can be used with a computer, radio, amateur radio etc. Portable with a power source or use wall brick 120V. See URL for information. New \$80 each...asking \$40 each.

<https://www.redferret.net/?p=9064>.

\***Tokyo HY-Power Amplifier HL-508B** \$250 Bump up QRP to 50 Watts, Great for FT817/818 and others. (new \$800). This is the most wanted amplifier in the QRP world. Most are 45 watts.

Contact Larry (NR3R) at [nr3r@ptd.net](mailto:nr3r@ptd.net)



## New Hams in the Area

At the February 23, 2024 LVARC test session, 3 tested and 3 passed.  
They received their calls on Tuesday February 27, 2024.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Timothy R Mikels — (KC3YNN) - Technician  
Mike Zientara \_\_\_\_\_ (KC3YNS) - General  
Brent Jones ——— (KC3YOE) - General

*Welcome to the hobby!*



de Larry (NR3R)

*Without consulting Google:*

- (1) What are the WARC bands and
- (2) What does WARC stand for?

### Answers

- (1) **30m**, **17m** and **12m**
- (2) **W**orld **A**dministrative **R**adio **C**onference

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

# 10 Highlights in this VOX



1. The March LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM **AND** In Person on **Tuesday March 5** at **7:30p.**
2. Need an LVARC new or replacement 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?" to Mark (AK3M)
5. **April 28 - St. Luke's HalfMarathon.**
6. Your first amateur radio. **NEW FEATURE**
7. Proud of your shack? **NEW FEATURE**
8. ARES review powerpoint.
9. Items for sale.
10. New hams!

