



The VOX



The Official Newsletter of the

Lehigh **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.**

* 147.735/147.135 (DCS 315)
Automatic Mode Select. Analog
* FM or YSF, Yaesu System Fusion),

Many club announcements will be heard there!

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

Program: TBA

Plan to attend this Meeting!

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

LVARC TEST SESSIONS

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

Contact Mark Miller (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com for details.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

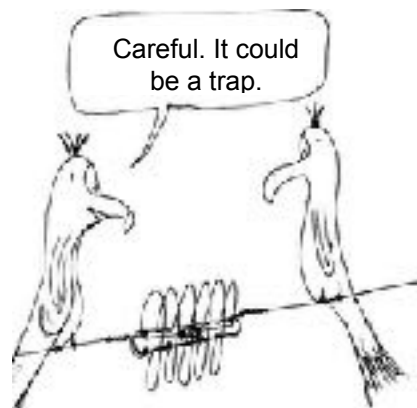
If you have questions, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com

Up Coming 2024 LVARC Programs/events

May 7 - LVARC meeting - Program: "Dipoles" - Scott (KB3YOT)

May 21 - Dipole build - de Scott (KB3YOT)

June 4 - Field Day preparation



Do you remember ...
“Tiddlywinks?”

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

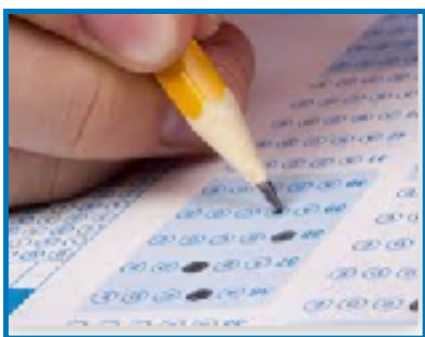


READER SUBMISSION

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. **Tuesday Night Net - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays — 8:00p - 146.94 MHz**
4. **Wednesday Night D-Star Net - 7:00p** - The Net starts out on the W3PLG B DSTAR Repeater - frequency **447.7125 MHz**.
5. **Thursday Night - 2m Simplex Net - 8:00p - 147.420 MHz**



LVARC 2024 Test Session Dates

2024

June 21 (at TCFC)

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							
<div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 20px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">May 2024</h2> </div>			1	2	3	4							
				<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> D-Star Net 7:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: orange; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> 2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00 </div>								
			5	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC Net 7:30p N3RPV </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p </div>	<div style="background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC Meeting 7:30p </div>	<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> D-Star Net 7:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: orange; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> 2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00 </div>	6	7	8	9	10	11
			12	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC Net 7:30p WW3TRG </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p </div>	<div style="background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Tuesday Night Net 146.94 8:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> D-Star Net 7:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: orange; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> 2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00 </div>						
19	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC Net 7:30p AK3M </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p </div>	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC "Hands On Night" Dipole build </div>	<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> D-Star Net 7:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: orange; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> 2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00 </div>									
26	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> LVARC Net 7:30p N3XG </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; font-size: small;"> 2m AM/SSB Net - 8:15p </div>	<div style="background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Tuesday Night Net 146.94 8:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> D-Star Net 7:00p </div>	<div style="background-color: orange; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> 2m FM SIMPLEX net 147.420 8:00 </div>	27	28	29	30	31				

2024 LVARC EVENTS

May 7 - LVARC meeting

May 21 - Dipole build

June 8 - Hanover Township 5K

June 21 - LVARC Test Session

June 22-23 - Field Day

August 15 - LVARC Test Session

September 21 - LVARC picnic



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

Mark your calendar!

Rod has reserved the Hawk pavilion for September 21, 2024..



Tuesday Night Net



Don't forget to check into the new Tuesday Night Net on 146.94 at 8:00p.

This net meets when there is no meeting or Hands On Night. The topics will depend on information wanted by new hams. Experienced hams are invited to check in to offer their wisdom.

"May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope." — Emily Brontë

Famous Ham

Paul Tibbets - K4ZVZ

(pilot of the Enola Gay)



READER SUBMISSION

Submitted by Larry (NR3R)

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.

2024 ARES Events

June 8 — Hanover Township Spring 5K

October — Women's 5K Classic

November — St. Luke's Marathon/Race Fest



Specific dates to be announced.

New Features!

In order to encourage member input to the VOX, three new features have been introduced. Send your pictures and description to me (Mark - AK3M) of:

1. Your first amateur radio.
2. Your ham radio journey.
3. Your ham shack.

NEW FEATURE



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 Club Needs Your Help!

Your club needs your help with the following:

1. **Monday Night Net control operators.**
Contact Rod (N3XG).
2. **ARES Volunteers** - Contact Mark (AK3M).
3. **Elmers** - Contact Rod (N3XG)



Your Amateur Radio Journey!

NEW FEATURE

How did you become interested in ham radio? Why, where, when, how, did you get your license? Share your ham radio journey with the members. Send to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com for inclusion in a future issue of the VOX.

Keep your license, VE and ARRL certificates, along with your home address, current with the LVARC, FCC and ARRL.

Field Day in June



Look for Field Day information in the June issue of the VOX.

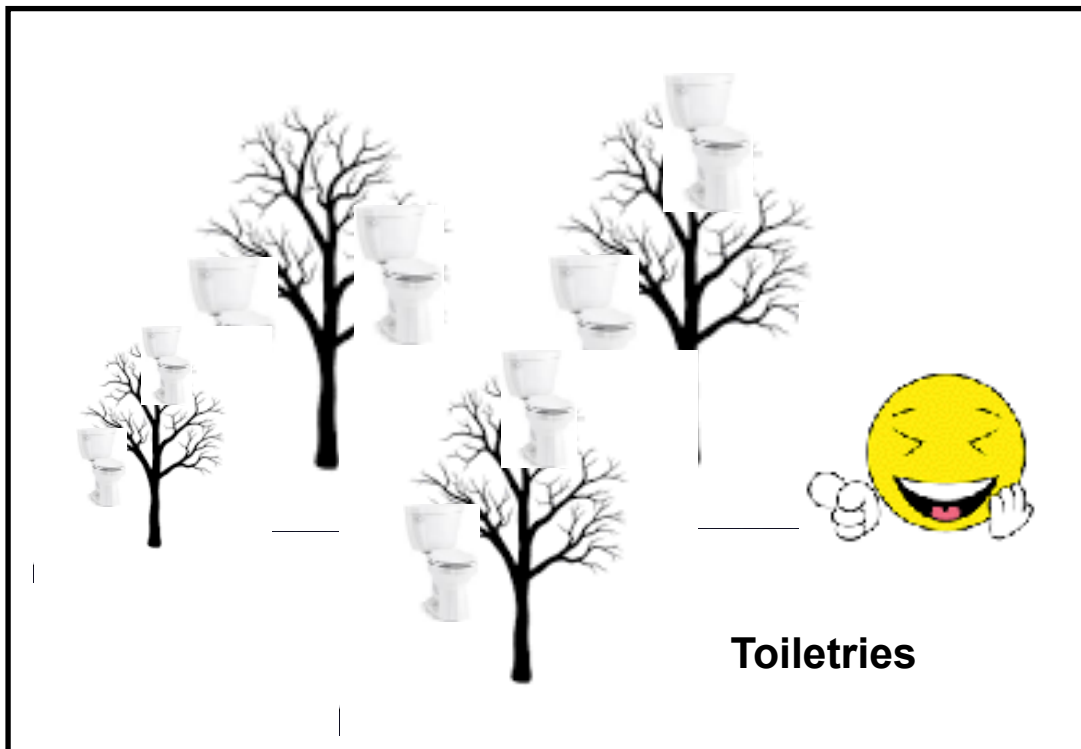
Field Day will be June 22 & 23.



Elmers wanted to mentor new hams and/or participate in the Tuesday Night Net!

The Tuesday Night Net meets on Tuesdays when there is no meeting or Hands On Night. The net starts at 8:00p on the 146.94 repeater.

If you want to help a new ham, contact Rod (N3XG) at n3xg.radio@gmail.com.



The March Net Report

Monday Night ARES / ACS

03/04 - 48

03/11 - 34

03/18 - 50

03/25 - 45

Total check-in's for March - 177 (4 weeks)

Monday Night 2m SSB

03/04 - 8

03/11 - 8

03/18 - 7

03/25 - 7

Total check-in's for March - 30 (4 weeks)

03/07 - 8

03/14 - 9

03/21 - 6

03/28 - 9

Total check-in's for March - 32 (4 weeks)

de Rod N3XG



Lots Happening at the LVARC!

The LVARC has many up-coming activities! These include new features in the VOX, upcoming ARES events, new ham friendly nets, Field Day, monthly activities and more.

Read the VOX, listen to the Monday Night net and attend meetings to find out about these and other. upcoming LVARC events.

Dipole Build!

The May LVARC activity night will be held on Tuesday May 21 at the fire company at 7:30. The activity will include a [dipole build](#) led by Scott (KB3YOT).

The kit comes with a winder, a parts kit with the center mount, BNC connector, other misc hardware, heat shrink, and enough wire to make up to a 20 meter antenna.

The kit is \$15.00 (that's my cost for all the materials per kit). Anyone who would like one can pay the night of the build and they can contact me at kb3yot@hotmail.com if you would like one. **Cash only** as I don't have any other way to accept money. I'll take a completed kit and an uncompleted kit to the May meeting for people to take a look at.

You don't have to buy the kit to attend the hands on night if you want to bring your own materials.

Scott
KB3YOT



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting Minutes

April General Meeting 04/02/2024

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

The Meeting was called to order by Rodney Wolfe (RW) @ 732

Secret Word is electric 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 24 members in attendance with 8 remote members (as per the email method) and 16 Local Attendees.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

President – Rodney Wolfe N3XG PRESENT

Vice President – Jeff Bauer WA3PNY REMOTE

Treasurer - Paul Ryan N0KIA PRESENT

Secretary - Steve Olock KS3RO PRESENT

Board of Governors:

Rick Pearce KC3EXO PRESENT

Mark Miller AK3M REMOTE

Scott Leichssenring KB3YOT PRESENT

John Bartos AB3LZ PRESENT

Phil Bigg KB3HMK PRESENT

Guests:

Nick Miccuccio Navy Vet Planning to Ham in the future

Rich W3RJ

Proceedings:

A motion was made to approve the March 2024 Meeting minutes as published in the April 2024 VOX newsletter. Motion to approve was made by John AB3LZ and 2nd by Scott KB3YOT Motion Passed = Y

Program for tonight: Generators John AB3LZ

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

Primary Income was memberships and 5050

Primary Expenses were Liability Insurance

Motion to approve Treasurer's report as read was made Steve K2OPA and 2nd by Mike KC3UCX

Motion Passed = Y

Committee Reports:

VE and ARES Reports for the April 2 2024 Meeting

ARES Report

The first ARES event of 2024 will be the St. Luke's Half Marathon held on Sunday April 28. To volunteer, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

The next event will be the Hanover Township 5K on Saturday June 8. To volunteer, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

VE Report

There will be an LVARC test session on Friday April 19 at 6:00p at Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem. Registration is necessary. To register, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com no later that the Sunday before the test (April 15). The next test session will be held on June 21.

Communications:

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

Repeater report: by Rod N3XG.

Previous issues may have been Slatington voter having issues,

DStar stack is back online and fully operational

C4FM is back online and operational

Club Station / Trailer:

Club Station: Lock was changed for access during some firehouse work, and during construction it will remain unlocked

Trailer work, Will be planned in May , Details from John AB3LZ

Old Business:

Tuesday Night during Non Meeting weeks, there will be a new Roundtable net, at 8PM on the .94 repeater.

Hands on night was a huge success, the antenna build was well received and it was a great activity for all who attended

May Hands On Night will be to add wire and tune the antenna

Summer Field Day will be weekend of June 22nd and June 23rd. Details to follow, Dan, KC3HWD will be coordinating the volunteers for the weekend and a meeting topic will be forthcoming.

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.

Looking for members for Elmer List, Note your area of expertise or experience or particular enjoyment in sharing and help those with needs in these categories to further their learning and enjoyment in the Hobby, Share your talents with members. Let Rod N3XG Know of how you would be willing to help

Tuesday Night Net on .94 repeater, 2nd/4th/5th for a round table net. That is it will be held on the Tuesday nights that aren't meeting nights or Hands On Nights.

New Business:

New Members: None Noted

Board Meeting was held for the 1st quarter and one of the topics of discussion was to Sell the existing Kenwood HF Rig, and replace it with a Yaesu FT710 Field.

A motion was made to approve the purchase, but hold until it is seen what the price is at Hamvention by Doug, N3WGH, and 2nd by Chuck, W3CDY Motion Passed =Y

Sick Call: None Noted

PNY procedure and is on the mend

Good of the Order:

1: Rod,. Mays presentation will be on building a dipole antenna by Scott, KB3YOT Kits will be available

2: April Hands On Night will be generators as a follow up to tonights meeting topic

3: Chuck shared some new radio bits about TID Radio, a Baofeng price class radio, may not be type accepted, and it is a bit of a variant on the theme of dual band handy talkie, but go eyes wide open as YMMV.

5: AB3LZ noted that with summer coming to be aware when representing the club that you are representing all of us and we are judged as a group both our club and as hams.

NJ Split Rock Tailgate Hamfest, April 20 (raindate April 21)

Meeting adjourned at 815 , Motioned to approve by:John AB3LZ and 2nd by Matt N3VAN

Respectfully Submitted Steve Olock KS3RO, Secretary

On The Air Nets for Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club

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

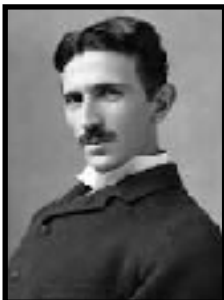
Monday 815 2M SSB Simplex 144.250 casual round robin net following the monday night net

Tuesday, 8PM April 9th 146.94 repeater casual round robin net on Non Meeting Tuesday Nights

Wed 7PM Dstar / digital d-rats / 147.7125

Thursday 8PM FM Simplex 147.420 5-8

"If you ask ten different hams the same question, you will most likely get ten different answers," — Anonymous



The LVARC Tesla Net

The new Tuesday Night Net has affectionally been named the **Tesla Net**. Presumably after the famous scientist.

Results of the April 19 2024 Test Session

At the April 19 2024 LVARC test session, six tested and six passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Alex Artau (KC3QOX) - Extra
Tyrus Bahrman - Extra
Douglas Poulin - Technician
Robert Eustice (KB3QLF) - General
Trevor Novotnak - Technician
Bart Semanchick - Technician



The paperwork was sent electronically to the ARRL on Friday April 19.

VEs in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Walt (KE3SP), Ralph (KC3VII) and Bob (WB3JSZ).

The next scheduled test session will take place on Friday June 21 at the Tri Clover Fire Company at 6:00p.

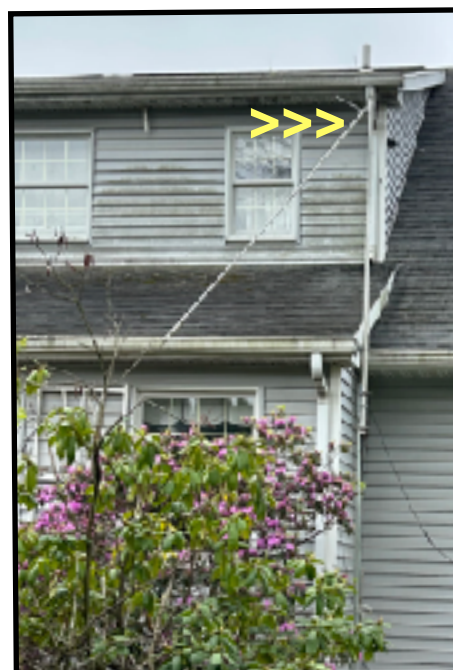
Spring Antenna Check!

de Mark (AK3M)

Spring is a good time to check any Winter antenna damage and make repairs or replacements.

My VHF/UHF vertical suffered damage over the Winter and needed replacement.

A broken vertical does not do well on simplex or through the repeater.



The **June 21 2024 LVARC test session** will be held at the **Tri Clover Fire Company in Orefield** in the **LVARC meeting room** and **NOT Hanover Elementary School** this **June session**. The address of the fire company is: **4801 Kernsville Rd, Orefield, PA 18069**. This change is because the school is closed for the Summer and we do not have access to the building in June.



The time of the test will be 6:00p as usual but arrive a bit earlier to begin the paperwork. Registration is necessary. To register for the June 21 test session, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.

What Do I Need to Take to an ARES Event?

The following items are suggested for an ARES event to make your stay more productive and comfortable.



LVARC ID, folding chair, vest, cooler bag for food and/or drinks, spare HT battery and extra HT antenna. Don't forget any medications you may need, sunglasses appropriate WX gear and note pad and pen.

Mark your calendar and keep your ARES gear around for the following 2024 LVARC ARES events. Volunteer your time and expertise!

June 8 — Hanover Township Spring 5K

October — Women's 5K Classic

November — St. Luke's Marathon/Race Fest

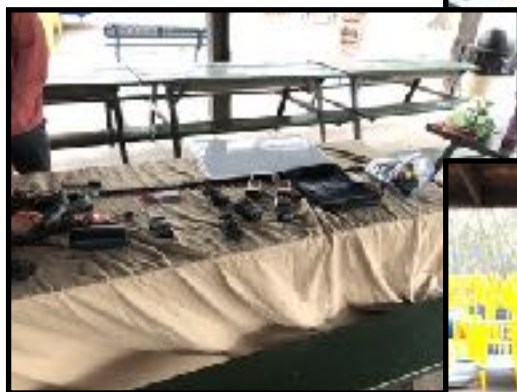


LVARC Member Helps Boy Scouts!

Chuck Fisher (KB3RBW) sent me some pictures of Boy Scouts he helped to get their Radio Merit Badge.

“I instructed Radio Merit Badge to four Scouts from Hawk Mountain Council over the last few weeks.

They all got the badge and I am hoping I inspired some of them to eventually get their tickets. ***Great group of Scouts!***”





New Hams In the Lehigh Valley!

Those who tested at the April 19 2024 test session, received their calls on Wednesday April 24, 2024.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Tyrus Bahrman - Extra - **AC3MI**
Trevor Novotnak - Technician - **KC3ZAH**
Bart Semanchick - Technician - **KC3ZAQ**
Douglas Poulin - Technician - **KC3ZAS**

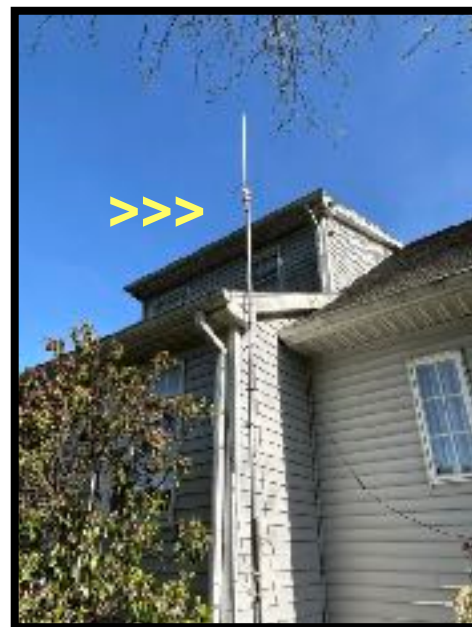
Welcome them to the hobby if you hear them on the air!

New Antenna!

de Mark (AK3M)

On page 15, I showed a picture of my broken VHF/UHF vertical. That is now a thing of the past!

TNX to DX Engineering and my nephew Rob (K3LBI), I now have a new Comet GP1 VHF/UHF vertical that replaces my old antenna!



"There is nothing impossible to him who will try." - Alexander the Great



The first LVARC ARES event of 2024 was held on a beautiful Sunday morning on April 28 2024. Eleven LVARC operators volunteered their time and communication expertise to provide communications support for the St. Luke's 5K and Half Marathon. This was the 40th year of these events!

The 13.1 mile event started at 0800 from William Allen High School and ran through the Lehigh Parkway and Allentown city streets, finishing at the Allentown School District (J. Birney Crum) stadium.

Eleven LVARC members volunteered and were on site at 0730 or earlier.

A big TNX to the following for their efforts to make this event safe for all 1, 500 half marathon participants.

Mark (**AK3M**)
 Chris (**N3RPV**)
 Mike (**KC3PPB**)
 Don (**N0VGA**)
 Bill (**KC3WXH**)
 Richard (**KC3FEZ**)

Larry (**NR3R**)
 Andy (**AK3KA**)
 Phil (**KB3HMK**)
 Ruth (**KC3WXI**)
 Mike (**KC3UCX**)

The net opened at 0747 and was closed at 1135. TNX to all LVARC operators who participated!

Following are pictures of the Half Marathon submitted by LVARC operators.



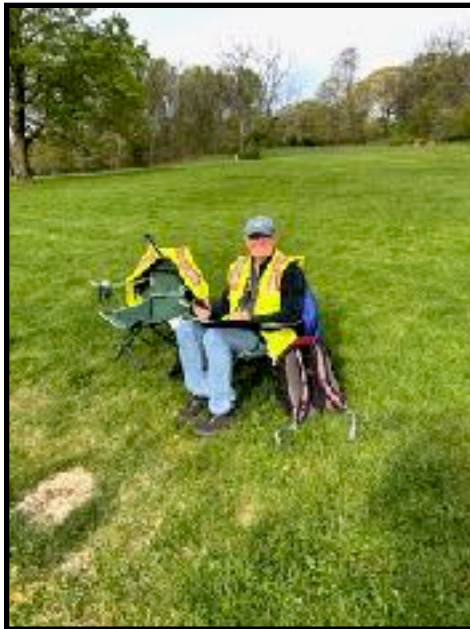
Net Control - Picture courtesy Larry (NR3R)



Net Control - Pictures courtesy Larry (NR3R)



Pictures above courtesy Mark (AK3M)



Pictures above courtesy Ruth (KC3WXI)



Pictures above courtesy Don (N0VGA)



Pictures above courtesy Dan (KC3HWD)





Pictures above and on page 23 courtesy Mike (KC3PPB)



Pictures above courtesy Mike (KC3UCX)



**Pictures courtesy
Phil (KB3HMK)**

The next ARES event is the Hanover Township 5K. This is a short event that runs through the neighborhoods of Hanover Township (Northampton County). **The HT 5K will be held on Saturday June 8.** Volunteer your time and communication expertise for communications support for this event. **You help is needed!** To volunteer, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com.





A Heavy Sad Heart

April 25, 2024

Dear Fellow Hams and Friends,

It is with a sad heart as I write this letter.

As many of you have heard by now, MFJ is ceasing its on-site production in Starkville, Mississippi on May 17, 2024. This is also the same for our sister companies' Ameritron, Hygain, Cushcraft, Mirage and Vecronics.

Times have changed since I started this business 52 years ago. Our product line grew and grew and prospered. Covid changed everything in businesses including ours. It was the hardest hit that we have ever had and we never fully recovered.

I turned 80 this year. I had never really considered retirement but life is so short and my time with my family is so precious.

I want to thank all of our employees who have helped build this company with me over the years. We have many employees who have made MFJ their career for 10, 20, 30, 40 and more years.

We are going to continue to sell MFJ products past May 17, 2024. We have a lot of stock on hand. We will continue to offer repair service work for out-of-warranty and in-warranty units for the foreseeable future.

Finally, a special thanks to all of our customers and our dealers who have made MFJ a worldwide name and a profitable business for so many years. You all are so much appreciated.

Sincerely Yours, 73s
Martin F. Jue, K5F

10 Highlights In This VOX



1. The April LVARC meeting will be held using ZOOM **AND** In Person on **Tuesday May 7** at **7:30p**.
2. Dipole build.
3. **Your ham radio journey.** **NEW FEATURE**
4. Monday Night Net Net Control operators wanted.
5. Dipole build - May 21
6. **Elmers wanted!**
7. **Your first amateur radio.** **NEW FEATURE**
8. New LVARC member!
9. Half Marathon review.
10. **Radio shack picture submission.** **NEW FEATURE**

and more



2024