The VOX

Lehigh **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **C**lub
November 2026 Newsletter

2026 Officers

President: Dan Longo – KC3HWD
Vice President: John Bartos – AB3LZ
Treasurer: Paul Ryan – N0KIA
Secretary: Phil Bigg – KB3HMK

2026 Board

Eric Hagan – N3EJH
Scott Redfield – W3SGT
Mike Salvaggio – KC3UCX
Matt Vanderhoff – N3VAN
Rodney Wolfe – N3XG

"Hello" from AC3OT - Mike Tyniec (mtyniec@gmail.com or 646.483.8232)

As 2026 comes to a close - please remember to process your 2027 Membership Renewal.

⇒Click Here for October Meeting Minutes⇐

Upcoming Events:

- Officer/Board Nominations will take place at the November Meeting with elections being held at the December Meeting.
- Pres Schuler Award - Dan Longo - KC3HWD - is accepting nominations until November 20th at longodg99@gmail.com .
- Monthly Club Meeting - November 3rd - 7:30PM - Tri-clover Fire Company - Dave Minster - CEO of the ARRL - will be presenting via Zoom
- D&L Racefest - Sunday November 15th
- Hands on Night - November 17th - 7PM - Tri-clover Fire Company - Convert your Quansheng UV-K1 Radio to support SSB - Ethan Johnson - KD3CYR

LVARC Repeaters

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)
147.420 (Club Simplex Freq.)
445.025 W3OI D-Star "B" module
147.165 W3OI D-Star "C" module
147.735/147.135 (DCS 315)*
*Automatic Mode Select Analog
*FM or Yaesu System Fusion

LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30p (ET)
On the 94 repeater.

Many club announcements will be heard on the Monday Night Net!

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - Serving the Lehigh Valley for 98 years

The VOX

Calendar:

November 2026						
Sunday	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**
1	2 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	3 Club Meeting @ 7:30PM	4	5 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	6	7
8	9 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	10 Tesla Tuesday @ 8:00	11 Digital Mode Net – 145.550 @ 7:00PM	12 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	13	14
15 D&L Racefest	16 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	17 Hands on Night @ 7PM UV-K1 SSB	18	19 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	20 Pres Schuler Nominations Due	21
22 LVARC Breakfast @ 8:30AM	23 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	24 Tesla Tuesday @ 8:00	25 Digital Mode Net – 145.550 @ 7:00PM	26 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	27	28
29	30 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM					

November's Presenter - Dave Minster (NA2AA) - ARRL Chief Executive Officer and Secretary



David Minster, NA2AA, is the ARRL's Chief Executive Officer.

Dave will be joining us at our November Club Meeting. His presentation will begin at 7:30PM sharp - please arrive early.

Minster got his Novice license, WB2MAE, in 1977, when he was in his teens. He progressed from Advanced to Amateur Extra and, after a stint as NW2D, he settled on the vanity call sign NA2AA in the 1990s as a way to honor a mentor, N2AA, and the contest station that he used to frequent, K2GL, in Tuxedo Park, New York.

Minster's ham radio pursuits have ranged far and wide over the years. His background includes National Traffic System training and participation in public service events, as well as contesting from home, club stations, and contest stations in the Caribbean — particularly on Bonaire, where he is a member of PJ4G. Primarily a CW operator, Minster collects unique and vintage bugs and keys.

In addition to being an ARRL member, Minster is a member of AMSAT, the Frankford Radio Club, the Straight Key Century Club, CWops, and the North American QRP CW Club.

"I spend every day of my life, one way or another, engaged in amateur radio. It is more than just a hobby for me; it is my community. It is where I live; where I have built lifelong friendships, and friendships that span the globe. Amateur radio allows me to dream and to experiment. I can't wait to bring my energy and boundless enthusiasm in service to ARRL."

Minster earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from The Ohio State University and has a special interest in satellites, digital communications, remote operation, and ham radio computing and software. He has written keyer software for the commercial market, and contest logging, packet, and satellite telemetry software for personal use. Minster joins the ARRL from Talentrian Partners, a management consulting firm serving the consumer goods and luxury goods industries, where he was a Managing Partner.

Pres Schuler Award

Dan Longo - KC3HWD - is now taking nominations for the Pres Schuler award. Our club has many members who go above and beyond for our club and encourage our hobby in a positive manner. Please send Dan an email with the name of a member you feel is deserving of the award and a brief reason why. He will be tallying nominations until Nov 20th The winner will be announced at our December meeting.

Dan's email is longodg99@gmail.com.

Officer/Board Nominations

Nominations will take place at the November Meeting with elections being held at the December Meeting.

All four Officer positions are up for election for a one year term: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

All five Board of Governors positions are up for election for a one year term with the exception that if the current president does not run or is not reelected he gets to serve a year on the Board Of Governors. In that case only 4 Board members are elected.

LVARC Breakfast - Sunday November 22nd



Special thanks to Tom Julius - KD3BZF - for coordinating a monthly breakfast to keep us all connected during the cold months of Winter.

We will be alternating the days each month so some months we meet on a Saturday and the next on a Sunday.

This month we'll be having breakfast at the Hometime Breakfast Bar & Grill.

8721 Hamilton Blvd, Breinigsville, PA 18031

IMPORTANT - Please RSVP to Tom at one of the following:

KD3BZF@yahoo.com
610.751.6606 (text or call)

2027 Membership Renewal

Here's an important message from our Treasurer - Paul Ryan (NØKIA):

The renewal period for 2027 dues opened on October 1st, 2026 and runs through February 28th, 2027. During this period it is my pleasure to accept your checks/cash/PayPal and update the online database. However, before you get out that checkbook or wallet, please check that you haven't already paid or been granted 2027 membership.

"How do I check?", you ask. Well, it's very easy. Just follow these simple steps:

1 - Logon to our W3OI.org website under Member Login. If you forgot your password, see the links under the big red Log In box.
2 - Once logged in, hover over the Members Area dropdown and click on My Profile.
3 - Under the My Profile data, look for the Renew Subscription entry. Your membership expiration date will be listed there.
4A -- If the expiration date listed is December 31st, 2027 or greater, you're good! Put the checkbook away.
4B -- If the expiration date listed is December 31st, 2026, send me the money!

Remember, you only have until February 28th to stay current on our books. BTW, life members will have a date of December 31, 2099. You may consider that a challenge if you wish!

Any questions, just send them to me here at paul.f.ryan@gmail.com or call at 484-226-6954.

Have a great year and 73,
~Paul, NØKIA

Rates

$15 Student
$20 Individual
$25 Family

Remit Checks (**Payable to Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio or LVARC**) to:

Paul F. Ryan, NØKIA
5814 Lindbergh St
Orefield, PA 18069

Alternatively:

Remit **PayPal** payments to: LVARC.W3OI@gmail.com
Remit **Venmo** payments to: @LehighValley-AmateurRadioClub

LVARC Gettysburg Club Field Trip - Three Parks, Two Teams, One Great LVARC Field Trip!

Gettysburg, Eisenhower, and a Bonus Activation at Catoctin

Link to All Pictures



An early start, good food, historic sights, and plenty of amateur radio made LVARC's October 24 field trip a full day of fun and fellowship. What began as a visit to Gettysburg and Eisenhower ultimately became a three-park Parks on the Air adventure!

The majority of the members met at Tri-Clover Fire Company and departed by 6:00 AM. Matt N3VAN drove the Ford Transit van, accompanied by Bob KD3BFW, Scotty W3SGT, Wayne N3FQ, Arnaldo KD3BEV, Al N3OTP, Tim KC3WMT, Mark W3BQD, and Tim KD3BGA. Tom KD3BZF traveled in his family's minivan with his wife, Beth, and son, Jojo.



Our first stop was Oregon Dairy in Lititz, Pennsylvania, where everyone enjoyed a great breakfast before continuing to Gettysburg National Military Park, US-0027. Upon arrival, we met Phil KB3HMK and Harold KD3BFU, along with Sora. Phil and Harold joined the van, and we began the Gettysburg Auto Tour.

After passing Auto Tour Stop 6, we pulled into the picnic area for our first activation. With 12 operators, Tom and Matt decided that splitting into two activation groups would give everyone a better opportunity to participate.

Tom's group included Wayne N3FQ, Tim KC3WMT, Bob KD3BFW, Tim KD3BGA, and Phil KB3HMK, operating under the club callsign W3OI. Matt's group included Scotty W3SGT, Arnaldo KD3BEV, Al N3OTP, Mark W3BQD, and Harold KD3BFU.

Tom's group went first at Gettysburg. The busy bands during CQ World Wide contest weekend made getting started a challenge, but both groups successfully completed their activations. The trip also welcomed four new POTA activators: Tim KD3BGA, Wayne N3FQ, Arnaldo KD3BEV, and Tim KC3WMT. Congratulations to all four on getting started with Parks on the Air!

With the radio portion of our Gettysburg visit accomplished, we continued the Auto Tour and took in more of the historic battlefield.



By the time the tour concluded, everyone was ready for a late lunch. The group headed to The Farmhouse Restaurant at the Barn Resort for a satisfying meal and another opportunity to relax and enjoy each other's company.

With our stomachs full, we made the short drive to Eisenhower National Historic Site, US-0810. This time, Matt's group took the first turn on the air, followed by Tom's group, with both teams activating from the parking lot.

Afterward, we returned Phil and Harold, along with Sora, to the Gettysburg parking lot. The conversation then turned to a possible bonus stop: Catoctin Mountain Park, US-0666, near Camp David in Maryland. In addition to adding a third park to the day, crossing into Maryland would give operators a new state operated for POTA. The group agreed that the roughly 30-minute drive south was well worth the opportunity!

At Catoctin, Tom's group went first, followed by Matt's group. Arnaldo also set up an antenna to practice deployment and tuning, adding some hands-on experimentation to the final stop.



With all three parks successfully activated, it was time to head home. We arrived back at 9:05 PM, wrapping up a long but rewarding day filled with history, radio, good meals, and great company.

Thank you to everyone who joined the trip and helped make it such a success. Three parks, two states, four new POTA activators, and a full day together made this an LVARC outing to remember!

Hands On Night - SSB on your Quansheng UV-K1 - November 17th



At our November Hands On Night - Ethan- KD3CYR - will be walking us through how to convert a Quansheng UV-K1 to support Side Band. This modification "may" allow members to join our Monday Night SSB Net - provided you have a capable antenna. If you'd like to participate in November's Hands On Night - please take the time now to order a radio. The Quansheng UV-K1 is approximately $37-$40 on Amazon depending on which battery you purchase - 1400mAh or 2500mAh.

IMPORTANT - this conversion process is at your own risk - you may brick the radio - proceed with caution.

UPDATE - No Soldering Required! You may have seen Ethan's writeup in the October VOX about the modification to the Quansheng UV-K1 ht radio. If you are only looking to get on USB, you do not need to disassemble or modify your radio's hardware. All that would be required is uploading the firmware modification.

To operate CW on this radio there are two options. Your first option is to go through the hardware modification that is in the October VOX and use a 3.5 mm aux cable to connect your paddle to the headphone jack. Your other option is to buy the USB-C to aux adapter that I mentioned in the article and with the most recent firmware update you can input your paddle over the USB-C port on the radio.

When Ethan initially wrote the article he assumed you needed to perform the hardware modifications to make the firmware operate properly. He recently found out that the hardware modification is just for the CW paddle input through the headphone jack. USB and CW over USB-C work perfectly fine without having to crack open the radio.

If you have any questions about the process please come to our Hands On Night - Ethan KD3CYR

LVARC VE October Test Session

Richard Taylor - NC3RT - has provided an update on August's VE Testing. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rich Taylor at rolyat.drahcir@me.com.

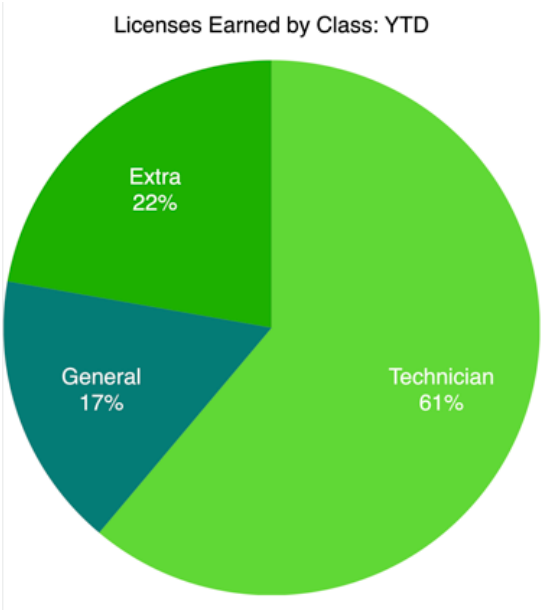
Licenses Earned: Oct 2026

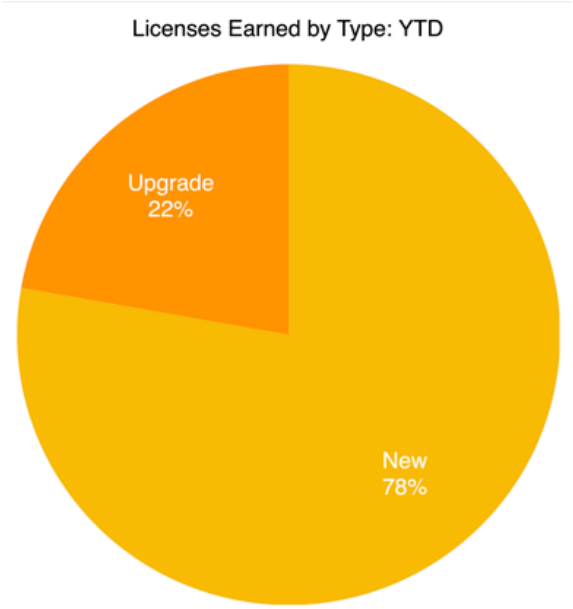
Candidate	Call Sign	Mem W3OI	Class
Collins, Justin M	KD3EAD		Technician
Conway, Walter	KD3EAC		Technician

Congratulations Hams!

Simple Pass Rates: YTD

Technician			General		
Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass	Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass
15	14	*93%*	11	5	*45%*
Extra			**All Elements**		
Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass	Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass
6	4	*67%*	32	23	*72%*





Upcoming Events (D&L Racefest)

Greetings club members!

I hope you're enjoying Autumn. It's been great seeing many of you at the meetings and special events that the club has held over the last couple of months.

We are now preparing for our last event of the year - the D&L Racefest.

D&L RaceFest:

Sunday November 15th. Race starts are slightly staggered and there are positions for every type of availability.

The D&L RaceFest is actually 4 races in one event! A full marathon that runs from Allentown to Easton; a relay that runs from Allentown to Easton; a half-marathon from Bethlehem to Easton; and a competitive walk from Bethlehem to Easton. More information here: https://race.delawareandlehigh.org/

FAQ:

Q: What do I need to volunteer?
A: An HT capable of using the primary repeater 146.94, and the ability to monitor and transmit for the duration of the event.

Q: Will I have to provide traffic control?
A: LVARC club members do not provide traffic control. That is not within the scope and purpose of our participation.

Q: Can I volunteer from home?
A: Unfortunately, we need our volunteers on the trail. We staff water stops, aid stations, and sag wagons. We provide real time situational awareness to event coordinators and work directly with EMS to coordinate the delivery of help on the trail.

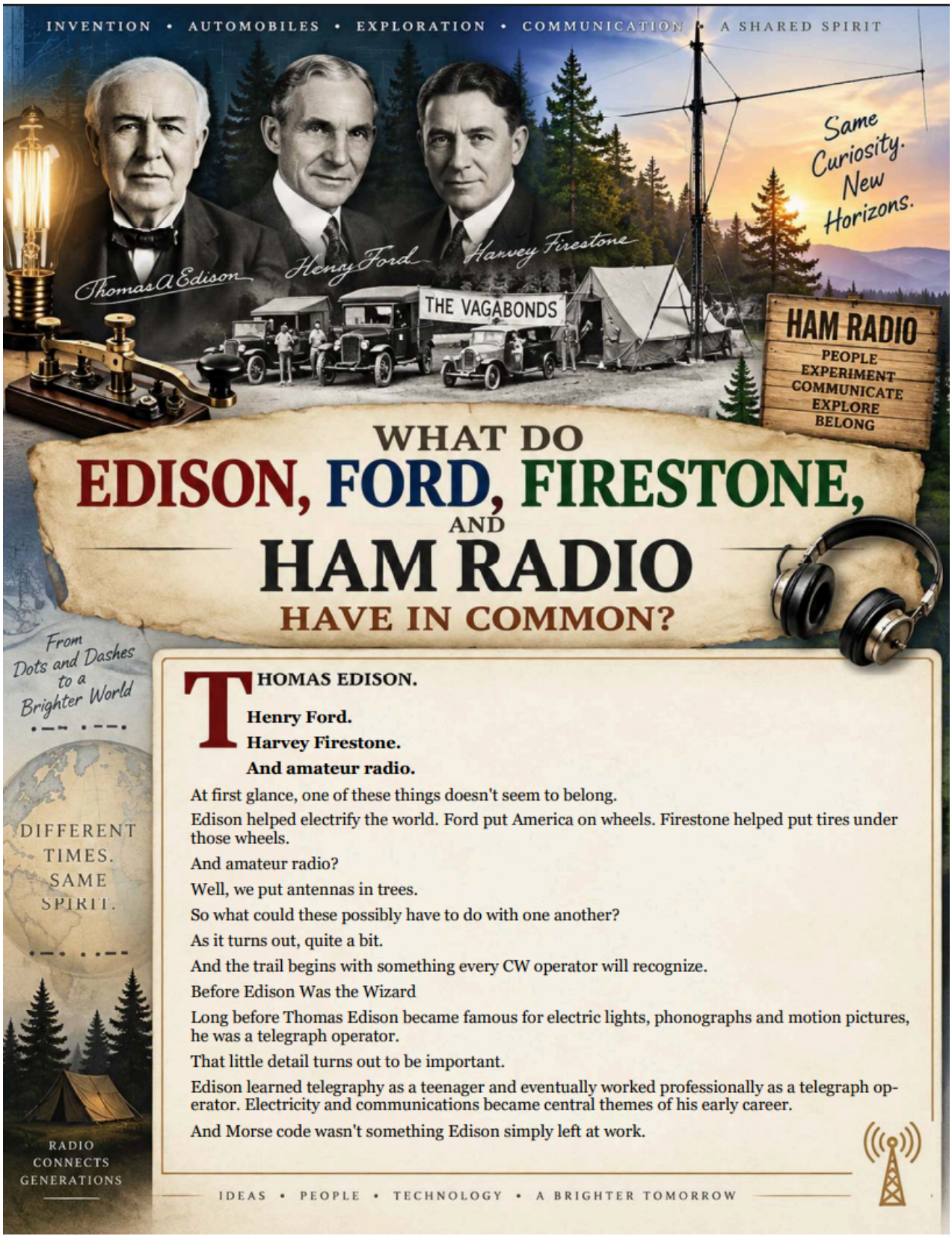
Please email me with your questions, comments and concerns.

Rodney N3XG - n3xg.radio@gmail.com

What do Edison, Ford, Firestone and Ham Radio have in Common?

A special thanks to Wayne Westfield (N3FQ) and Paul Eline (KA3MTY) for putting this article together for all of us to enjoy!




INVENTION • AUTOMOBILES • EXPLORATION • COMMUNICATION • A SHARED SPIRIT
Thomas A Edison
Henry Ford
Harvey Firestone
THE VAGABONDS
Same Curiosity. New Horizons.
HAM RADIO
PEOPLE
EXPERIMENT
COMMUNICATE
EXPLORE
BELONG
WHAT DO
EDISON, FORD, FIRESTONE,
AND
HAM RADIO
HAVE IN COMMON?
From Dots and Dashes to a Brighter World
DIFFERENT TIMES. SAME SPIRIT.
RADIO CONNECTS GENERATIONS
THOMAS EDISON.
Henry Ford.
Harvey Firestone.
And amateur radio.
At first glance, one of these things doesn't seem to belong.
Edison helped electrify the world. Ford put America on wheels. Firestone helped put tires under those wheels.
And amateur radio?
Well, we put antennas in trees.
So what could these possibly have to do with one another?
As it turns out, quite a bit.
And the trail begins with something every CW operator will recognize.
Before Edison Was the Wizard
Long before Thomas Edison became famous for electric lights, phonographs and motion pictures, he was a telegraph operator.
That little detail turns out to be important.
Edison learned telegraphy as a teenager and eventually worked professionally as a telegraph operator. Electricity and communications became central themes of his early career.
And Morse code wasn't something Edison simply left at work.
IDEAS • PEOPLE • TECHNOLOGY • A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



His first child, Marion Estelle Edison, was nicknamed "Dot," a direct reference to the dots and dashes used in telegraphy. Her younger brother Thomas Alva Edison Jr. became "Dash."

Think about that for a moment.

Plenty of amateur radio operators love CW.

We put Morse on coffee mugs.

We put it on T-shirts.

We put our callsigns in Morse on shack signs.

Thomas Edison named the kids after it.

That's commitment.

But the best Edison Morse story was still to come.

The World's Shortest-Range Communications System

After Edison's first wife, Mary, died, Edison met a young woman named Mina Miller.

Soon Edison encountered a communications problem that generations of young couples would later solve with text messages:

How do you have a private conversation when the family is sitting right there?

Edison had a solution.

He taught Mina Morse code.

According to the National Park Service, Edison said that he and Mina could then communicate secretly even while members of the family were watching.

And apparently the system worked rather well.

Because Edison claimed that one day he tapped a question into Mina's hand.

Would she marry him?

Mina tapped back:

Yes.

There was even a witness.

Edison's daughter Marion, appropriately enough the child nicknamed Dot, later claimed that she saw her father propose to Mina using Morse code.

So, depending upon how generous we're feeling with our terminology, Edison had developed a private communications system.

No repeater.

No cell service.

No internet.

No encryption.

And absolutely no monthly subscription.

Admittedly, the effective range was only a few inches.

But the message got through.

Morse: 1.
Nosy relatives: 0.

And if you're wondering whether that counts as a QSO, we'll leave that argument for the next club meeting.

IDEAS

Morse Was More Than a Parlor Trick

This is where our story starts becoming more interesting.

Telegraphy wasn't merely Edison's first job. It influenced the way he thought about communications and invention.

When Edison was developing the phonograph in 1877, his notes actually compared recording the human voice with recording telegraphic signals.

The National Park Service documents Edison thinking about telephone signals as a kind of "speaking telegraph." Telegraph dots and dashes could already be recorded and replayed mechanically. Edison began considering whether human speech might be captured and reproduced in a similar fashion.

So the telegraph wasn't simply a colorful chapter from Edison's youth.

It helped shape the thinking that led to some of his later inventions.

But we still haven't explained Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone.

For that, we're going camping.

Enter Ford and Firestone

Henry Ford became a close friend of Thomas Edison.

Add Harvey Firestone, founder of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and naturalist and writer John Burroughs, and we suddenly have a rather remarkable collection of friends.

An inventor.

An automobile manufacturer.

A tire manufacturer.

A naturalist.

What do successful men like these do when they want to escape civilization?

Apparently they load an unreasonable quantity of equipment into vehicles and head into the woods.

Any amateur radio operator who has ever participated in Field Day should immediately recognize the symptoms.

Meet the Vagabonds

From 1915 into the 1920s, Edison, Ford, Firestone and Burroughs embarked on a series of automobile camping adventures.

They became known as the Vagabonds.

And calling what they did "camping" requires a somewhat flexible interpretation of the word.

As the expeditions grew, so did the operation.

There were automobiles.

Trucks.

Tents.

Equipment.

Food.



Support personnel.

People to maintain the vehicles.

People to prepare meals.

Photographers and reporters.

The Henry Ford's historical collection even contains photographs of their 1921 caravan of trucks and automobiles.

Let's review.

A group of technically minded people...

loads several vehicles with far more equipment than any normal person believes necessary...

drives into the countryside...

sets up a temporary camp...

plays with technology...

eats...

talks...

occasionally naps...

But we still haven't explained Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone.

For that, we're going camping.

Enter Ford and Firestone

Henry Ford became a close friend of Thomas Edison.

Add Harvey Firestone, founder of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and naturalist and writer John Burroughs, and we suddenly have a rather remarkable collection of friends.

An inventor.

An automobile manufacturer.

A tire manufacturer.

A naturalist.

What do successful men like these do when they want to escape civilization?

Apparently they load an unreasonable quantity of equipment into vehicles and head into the woods.

Any amateur radio operator who has ever participated in Field Day should immediately recognize the symptoms.

Meet the Vagabonds

From 1915 into the 1920s, Edison, Ford, Firestone and Burroughs embarked on a series of automobile camping adventures.

They became known as the Vagabonds.

And calling what they did "camping" requires a somewhat flexible interpretation of the word.

As the expeditions grew, so did the operation.

There were automobiles.

Trucks.

Tents.

Equipment.

Food.

Support personnel.

People to maintain the vehicles.

People to prepare meals.

Photographers and reporters.

The Henry Ford's historical collection even contains photographs of their 1921 caravan of trucks and automobiles.

Let's review.

A group of technically minded people...

loads several vehicles with far more equipment than any normal person believes necessary...

drives into the countryside...

sets up a temporary camp...

plays with technology...

eats...

talks...

occasionally naps...

and attracts curious people wondering what they're doing.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are getting dangerously close to Field Day.

They were basically one antenna launcher away from needing an ARRL section abbreviation.

They Even Came Through Pennsylvania

Now this gets a little closer to home.

During the 1918 Vagabonds expedition, Ford met Firestone in Ohio and then joined Edison and Burroughs in Pennsylvania. From there the group traveled through West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina.

So picture the scene.

A caravan of vehicles loaded with equipment.

Thomas Edison is there.

Henry Ford is there.

Harvey Firestone is there.

They're traveling through Pennsylvania.

If someone had handed Edison a transmitter and said, "Tom, see if you can work New Jersey," amateur radio history might have become considerably more interesting.

Unfortunately, we don't have evidence that the Vagabonds were operating an amateur station on these expeditions.

So we can't call it Field Day.

But we can certainly accuse them of suspiciously Field-Day-like behavior.

But Where Is the Radio?

Up to this point we have a wonderful coincidence.



Edison was a telegrapher.

He knew Morse.

He used Morse at home.

He used ideas originating in telegraphy while thinking about other communications technologies.

And he went on elaborate camping trips with Ford and Firestone.

That's enough for a fun story.

But it isn't the real punch line.

Because Thomas Edison has a much more direct connection to radio technology.

And strangely enough, it starts with a light bulb.

The Edison Effect

In 1883, while Edison's laboratory was experimenting with incandescent lamps, something peculiar was observed.

A current could flow through the vacuum inside a lamp between the heated filament and another electrode.

The phenomenon became known as the Edison Effect.

Edison made some practical use of it, but its greater significance wasn't yet understood.

Then along came British physicist and electrical engineer John Ambrose Fleming.

Fleming investigated the phenomenon and eventually realized that it could be used to detect radio signals.

In 1904 he developed the thermionic valve.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History describes Fleming's device as the first radio tube and directly traces its development to the Edison Effect.

Now our little camping story has wandered straight into the radio shack.

Follow the path:

Edison the telegrapher

☐

Morse code and electrical communication

☐

Edison's electrical experimentation

☐

The Edison Effect

☐

Fleming's thermionic valve

☐

Practical radio tubes and electronic circuits

☐

Radio

☐

Amateur Radio

Suddenly the connection isn't just a joke.

There's an actual technological family tree.

Ford and Firestone Weren't Finished Either

Years later, our three friends would come together for something much more serious than camping.

In 1927, Edison, Ford and Firestone were concerned about America's dependence on foreign sources of natural rubber.

That was a significant problem.

Ford needed rubber for automobiles.

Firestone obviously needed enormous quantities of it for tires.

And Edison?

Edison did what Edison did.

He started experimenting.

The three men formed the Edison Botanic Research Corporation.

The following year a research laboratory was built in Fort Myers, Florida.

The goal was straightforward but enormously ambitious:

Find a plant that could be grown quickly in the United States and provide a practical domestic source of rubber.

Under Edison's leadership, researchers tested more than 17,000 plant samples.

Eventually Edison selected goldenrod as the most promising candidate.

Think about that.

Seventeen thousand samples.

Different materials.

Different experiments.

Different results.

Try something.

Measure it.

Change something.

Try again.

Keep what works.

Discard what doesn't.

Repeat.

Now that should sound familiar to amateur radio operators.

Except when a ham tries 17,000 different antenna configurations, we call it:

Saturday.

Maybe That's the Real Connection

Thomas Edison, Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone weren't the founders of amateur radio.

We're not going to rewrite history and issue them honorary callsigns.

But perhaps that's not really the point.

They lived during an extraordinary period when electricity, automobiles, telecommunications and radio were

transforming everyday life.

They were curious.

They experimented.

They built things.

They took things apart.

They identified problems and tried to solve them.

Sometimes their ideas worked.

Sometimes they didn't.

And occasionally they packed an absurd amount of equipment into automobiles and disappeared into the countryside with their friends.

More than a century later, amateur radio operators are still doing many of those same things.

We experiment with antennas.

We build equipment.

We troubleshoot problems that nobody else knew existed.

We communicate using technology whose ancestry stretches all the way back to the telegraph.

We still use Morse code.

And every June, thousands of us pack radios, coax, antennas, batteries, generators, laptops, food, tents, tables, chairs and approximately fourteen adapters that nobody remembers packing into vehicles and head into the field.

Maybe Edison, Ford and Firestone weren't hams.

But I suspect they'd understand us.

Edison would recognize the Morse.

Ford would approve of the mobile installation.

Firestone would make sure we got there.

And if the Vagabonds walked into a modern Field Day site and saw the trucks, tents, generators, food, wires, equipment and people enthusiastically experimenting with technology, they might feel strangely at home.

They'd probably have only one question:

"What's the antenna for?"

And after explaining that we're trying to talk to someone halfway around the world using a radio powered by a generator in the middle of a field, Edison would probably want to see the schematic.

Ford would want to know how everything fit in the truck.

Firestone would check the tires.

And eventually someone would ask the most important question heard at Field Day:

"Has anybody eaten yet?"

Because apparently some technologies really haven't changed very much.

73

By Wayne (N3FQ) Westfield

Story idea Paul (KA3MTY) Eline





2026 Woman's 5K Classic



The 34th Woman's 5k Classic was held on the Lehigh Parkway on Saturday, October 3rd. Since 1993, the Women's 5K Classic has raised funds to support Greater Lehigh Valley organizations that share its mission of promoting fitness among women of all ages, assisting women and families affected by breast and other female cancers and educating women about breast cancer awareness, prevention and treatment.

A huge thanks to our dedicated volunteers: Ruth AC3NN, Bill KC3WXH, Eric N3EJH, Paul AC3PG, Terry KD3BEG, Rich NC3RT, Rob AB3RC, Scotty W3SGT, Phil KB3HMK, Bob KD3BFW, Don N0VGA, and our event net control station Larry NR3R.



A typical crisp NEPA early October morning, gave way to blue skies and warming temps for the event. The parkway already started it's transition to fall colors, providing a scenic back-drop for the event participants dressed in pink. There were three events, including a survivors walk. Most of the communications was routine, and our operators were again responsible to alert event officials of changing course conditions. This year we were able to alert the course officials of a tree that was blocking a portion of the course, and course modifications were made in real time.

There was one reported injury that was handled quickly by the Allentown EMS Bike Squad.

The LVARC has been supporting this event for over 20 years, with special thanks to the original coordinator Mark AK3M/SK. Through Mark's efforts and dedication the LVARC has formed a solid relationship with event coordinators. We are proud to carry on.

de Rodney N3XG





Winter Field Day - Friday Jan. 22nd - Monday Jan. 25th, 2027

Now that Summer Field Day is over, we can all start looking forward to Winter Field Day.



Mark your calendars for January 22nd through January 25th 2027.

LVARC is renting a cabin at Lake Nockamixon again. We are planning to have the cabin for three nights, Friday January 22nd, Saturday January 23rd and Sunday January 24th. We will do a POTA activation of the park on Friday night. Winter Field Day operations will start at 11:00 AM EST on Saturday. Winter Field Day operations officially cease at 2:00 PM on Sunday.

If you are interested in attending, please let us know. If you would like to spend a night or two at the cabin, please send an email to kb3yot@hotmail.com.

More information can be found at Home - WFDA.

Hope to see you there.

Scott KB3YOT

A Beautiful Fall Morning on Mount Davis – POTA, SOTA & Sasquatch!

October 13, 2026 | Mount Davis, Pennsylvania

Sometimes the best ham radio adventures start long before the sun comes up!

On Tuesday, October 13th, 2026, Rich (NC3RT) and Matt (N3VAN) got an early start, hitting the road together for a trip across Pennsylvania to Mount Davis, the highest point in the Commonwealth, for a combination Parks on the Air (POTA) and Summits on the Air (SOTA) activation.





Our destination was **Mount Davis – POTA US-0625 and SOTA W3/PT-001**, and Mother Nature couldn't have given us a better day!

The weather was absolutely beautiful, with the sun shining, crisp autumn air, and colorful fall leaves scattered across the ground. It was the perfect setting for some portable ham radio operating in the mountains of western Pennsylvania.

We got on the air at **8:30 AM** and spent the next **2 hours and 15 minutes** making contacts with fellow amateur radio operators. The bands kept us busy, and by the time we wrapped things up at 10:45 AM, we had logged an impressive **115 QSOs**, including **18 Park-to-Park contacts**, with an average contact distance of **523 miles**!

Adding to the excitement, Matt (N3VAN) was also operating as **Special Event Station (SES) W7G** in celebration of **National Sasquatch Awareness Day**, part of the special event running from **October 13th through October 21st, 2026**. What better place to put a Sasquatch special event station on the air than from the wooded mountains of Pennsylvania? With the fall leaves covering the ground and the surrounding forest, we couldn't help but wonder if Bigfoot might have been listening in!

Activation Highlights

- **Operators:** Matt N3VAN & Rich NC3RT
- **Location:** Mount Davis, Pennsylvania
- **POTA Reference:** US-0625
- **SOTA Reference:** W3/PT-001
- **Special Event Station:** W7G – National Sasquatch Awareness Day
- **Start Time:** 8:30 AM
- **Operating Time:** 2 hours, 15 minutes
- **Total QSOs:** 115
- **Average Contact Distance:** 523 miles
- **Park-to-Park Contacts:** 18

After a successful morning on the air, we packed up our equipment and began the journey back east. Of course, no good radio adventure is complete without stopping for a great meal!



On the way home, we made a stop at the historic **Jean Bonnet Tavern in Bedford, Pennsylvania**, where we enjoyed a well-deserved lunch before continuing our drive back to the Lehigh Valley.



It was another fantastic day of portable amateur radio, combining beautiful fall scenery, great operating conditions, plenty of contacts, a little Sasquatch fun, and good company.

115 contacts, two activation programs, one Sasquatch special event station, one beautiful Pennsylvania summit, and another great adventure in the books!

73 from Rich NC3RT & Matt N3VAN!

Trivia/Tech Net

Some of us passed these tests years ago and some are still studying. Give it a try and see how much you remember! Answers at the end of the VOX.

Technician (New Question Pool - Effective July 1, 2026):

Q: What is an appropriate way to call another station on a repeater if you know the other station's call sign?

A. Say "break, break," then the other station's call sign, followed by your call sign
B. Say the station's call sign, then identify with your call sign
C. Say "CQ" three times, then the other station's call sign, followed by your call sign
D. Wait for the station to call CQ, then answer with your call sign

General:

Q: When operating a station in South America by remote control over the internet from the US, what regulations apply?

A. Those of both the remote station's country and the FCC
B. Those of the remote station's country and the FCC's third-party regulations
C. Only those of the remote station's country
D. Only those of the FCC

Amateur Extra:

Q: What signals SSTV receiving software to begin a new picture line?

A. Specific tone frequencies
B. Elapsed time
C. Specific tone amplitudes
D. A two-tone signal

October 2026 Meeting Minutes:

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting

Month General Meeting DATE October 6, 2026

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

The Meeting was called to order by Dan Longo @ 7:30 PM

Secret Word is Spooky and needs to be emailed to Phil @ philbert17@ptd.net to show attendance for online participants.

Dan 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 was a total of 44 members in attendance with 8 remote members (as per the email method) and 36 local attendees.

The following Board Members were present at the meeting:

President – Dan Longo KC3HWD__Present

Vice President – John Bartos AB3LZ__Present

Treasurer - Paul Ryan N0KIA __Present

Secretary - Phil Bigg KB3HMK __Present

Board of Governors:

Rod Wolfe N3XG__Present

Mike Salvaggio KC3UCX__Present

Eric Hagan N3EJH __Absent

Scotty Redfield W3SGT __Present

Matthew Vanderhoff N3VAN __Present

Guests and Attendees of Note:

Thirston Gill Jr.

Dave Mellman (KA3IWC)

John Schwartz (KD3BXX)

1 - Proceedings:

A motion was made to approve the September meeting minutes as published in the October VOX newsletter. Motion to approve was made by Rod (N3XG) and 2nd by Jerold (KC3FNB)

Motion Passed = Y

Program for tonight:

Tonight's program will be an ARES ACS update.

2 - Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

Paul presented the monthly financial report for the month of September 2026

Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Doug (N3WGH) and 2nd by Scott (W3SGT)

Motion Passed = Y

3 - ARES & VE Report

VE Report:

There was no test session in September. The next test session will be on October 16th.

ARES Report:

Rod thanked everyone who helped out with the Women's 5k Run. The next big event is the D & L Marathon on November 15th. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Rod (N3XG).

4 - Communications:

Website: No issues to report currently.

5 - Repeater report: by Rod N3XG.

There has been some interference on the 135 repeater from another 135 repeater in the Reading area. Rod contacted the owner and is waiting to hear back from him. Rod will update the members at the next meeting.

6 - Club Station / Trailer:

Repairs to the trailer were done. The trailer was also cleaned up. The club took the trailer to EmComm Roundup.

7 - Old Business:

The cabin has been rented for Winter Field Day. The club has it for three days. Winter Field is January 22 – 24. There have been some changes to the rules. Satellite communication is out. They included slow scan tv. The categories for power are as follows: radios on battery, laptops and radios on battery and everything on battery. The club will do potluck again for food. The club will also do multiple POTA activations again. For more info, please contact Scott (KB3YOT).

The T-shirts and hats are here. See Dan if you ordered any.

The new tent and Spider Beams have arrived. They will mainly be used for summer Field Day.

The next POTA event will be the trip to Gettysburg National Park. There are still 1 – 2 spots open for the van if anyone is interested in going. The club will also be activating at the Eisenhower Farm thanks to a special invitation by the National Park Service. The last POTA event will be a joint activation with the EPARA at Beltzville State Park on October 31st.

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

8 - New Business:

October 17th the club will be helping the Center Valley Boy Scout Troop 191 with the annual JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) this year. Members are needed to help with set up and interacting with the scouts. Members are also needed to operate from their home QTH to talk to the scouts. If interested, please contact Matt (N3VAN).

Scott (W3WT) mentioned an article in a recent QST magazine about how to run a club meeting. It was suggested that the program be done first and then the business meeting follows. A motion was made by Scott (W3WT) and seconded by Scott (KB3YOT) to move the presentation to the beginning of the meeting and the business meeting after. Discussion followed. The decision was made to table the motion so the board can discuss it further. The two members that made the motion agreed to tabling to a later date.

Ethan (KD3CYR) will be doing the Hands on Night in November. He will be demonstrating how to convert a Quansheng radio to operate USB and CW. Contact Ethan to check with the correct radio and other things needed for that night.

Dan asked for a motion to open nominations at the October meeting for 2027. A motion was made by Tom (KD3BZF) and seconded by Matt (N3VAN). He then asked for nominations for the following positions individually:

President:	Matt (N3VAN) – Accepted
	Rich (NC3RT) – Accepted
Vice President:	John (AB3LZ) – Accepted
	Tom (KD3BZF) – Accepted
Treasurer:	Paul (N0KIA) – Accepted
Secretary:	Phil (KB3HMK) – Accepted
Board - 4:	Scott (W3WT) – Accepted
	Eric (N3EJH) – Not present in person or online. Secretary will contact him.
	Mike (AC3OT) – Accepted
	Rick (KC3EXO) – Accepted
	Mike (KC3UCX) – Accepted
	Mike (KC3BLF) – Declined
	Scott (KB3YOT) – Declined
	Ruth (AC3NN) – Declined
	Jeff (Wa3PNY) – Accepted
	Harold (KD3BFU) – Accepted
	Rod (N3XG) – Declined

Dan then asked for a motion to close nominations for October. Matt (N3VAN) made the motion and was seconded by Doug (N3WGH). The motion passed.

Nominations will reopen at the November meeting.

(Please note that the club normally elects five members to the board. With the current president electing not to run again, he is automatically put in as a board member. So, this year we will be electing only four members to the board.)

8a - New Members:

There were no applications for new members for the month of October 2026

9 - Sick Call

No report

10 - Good of the Order:

Mike (KC3UCX) had the following hamfests to report:

October 11th – Gloucester County ARC

October 18th – RF Hill ARC

October 24th – Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club

Dan (KC3HWD) stated that he received a paper copy of the October 2026 QST magazine. It's free for anyone that wants it.

Paul (N0KIA) stated that of last month the club is doing financially well.

The Pa. QSO Party is this weekend. Several members are going to different parts of the state to participate.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rod (N3XG) and 2nd by Matt (N3VAN).

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted Phillip Bigg KB3HMK, Secretary

Monthly Net Report

September Net Report:

Monday ARES / ACS Net:
9/7 37
9/14 49
9/21 57
9/28 56
Total: 199

Monday 2m SSB
9/7 6
9/14 6
9/21 8
9/28 5
Total: 25

Tesla Tuesday
9/8 9
9/22 10
9/29 6
Total: 25

Wednesday Digital Net:
9/9 4
9/23 3
9/30 2
Total: 9

Thursday 2m FM Simplex
09/03 6
9/10 8
9/17 4
9/24 5
Total: 23

Net Manager wishes to thank all of the members who step in and help on a regular basis. We could not have quality nets without the participation of our membership.

Shop & Swap:

Phillip W. Bigg - KB3HMK - philbert17@ptd.net is selling his Ryobi 40 Volt Power Station.

- 40V 1800-Watt Portable Battery Inverter Power Station and 4-Port Charger with (4) 6.0 Ah Batteries
- Comes With Charging Cord And Cover
- Practically Brand New, Used a Couple of Times
- Asking $900



LVARC VE Test Sessions

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (LVARC) holds test sessions **every other month** at the Tri-Clover Fire Company in Orefield, PA. Test sessions are listed on the ARRL website at **http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session**

Test sessions begin at **6:30pm** (local time) or as notified by Rich.

* * Preregistered Applicants ONLY! * *

2026/2027 Testing Dates

Click on a date below to register through HamStudy. This is the preferred way to register.
To register by email contact Rich Taylor (NC3RT) at **rolyat.drahcir@me.com.**

December 18th 2026, January 23rd, 2027 (Winter Field Day), February 19th, 2027, April 16th, 2027, June 18th, 2027, June 26th, 2027 (Summer Field Day), August 20th, 2027, October 15th, 2027, & December 17th, 2027

You **MUST pre-register** at least 2 days before the session. The deadline for registering for the test is the **Wednesday BEFORE the scheduled Friday test date**.

Before the test:

You will need to get an FRN **BEFORE** the test session. You will need to take that number to the session. To get an FRN, go to https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do

At the Test Session:

You will need to pay $15.00 (EXACT CASH) at the test session AND then the $35.00 FCC fee when your paperwork is received by the ARRL.

- Two forms of ID – If you are a student and do not have a driver's license, a student ID is appropriate.
- Blank sheet of paper and a pen or pencil
- A COPY of your amateur license (if you have one) which will not be returned
- **$15.00** Testing Fee (**EXACT CASH** Only). Should you not pass, another version of the test may be taken at the same sitting for an additional $15.00 fee.

Candidates take all tests using a tablet computer provided by the VE Team. The tablet has a calculator app for candidate use during exams.

***** If you cannot attend one of our sessions, you can find other options and locations using the using the ARRL Test Finder Page *****

Monthly Club Presentations:

Would you like to share your enthusiasm for a specific facet of amateur radio? Is there something you would like the club to explore / present? If you have suggestions for programs for 2026 or would like to share your passion with the club, please contact Dan KC3HWD.

Weekly Nets:

Monday @ 7:30pm – ARES / ACS Net – 146.94
Monday @ 8:15pm – 2m SSB – 144.255 USB
2nd and 4th Tuesday @ 8pm – Tesla Tuesday Chat – 146.94
UPDATE!! - 2nd and 4th Wednesday @ 7:00pm – Digital Mode Net – 145.550
Thursday @ 8:00pm – 2m FM Simplex – 147.42

Trivia/Tech Net - Answers

Tech: **B.** Say the station's call sign, then identify with your call sign
General: **C.** Only those of the remote station's country
Extra: **A.** Specific tone frequencies