

The VOX

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club September 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)

We're not done with Summer yet! LVARC has a [Club Picnic Planned for Sunday September 27th](#), Matt - N3VAN - has planned a [“POTA Adventures” on Saturday, September 19th, at Hickory Run State Park](#), and the club is looking to plan a [LVARC Gettysburg Club Field Trip - A Day of History & Radio!](#)

[⇒Click Here for August Meeting Minutes⇐](#)

IMPORTANT - 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.

Upcoming Events:

- Monthly Club Meeting - September 1st - 7:30PM - Tri-clover Fire Company - Presentation by Adam Iannazzone (K2CAT) - [QRV - The Ham Radio Multitool - Adam - K2CAT](#).
- IMPORTANT - [Club T-Shirts - Pickup at the September Meeting](#)
- Hands on Night - September 15th - 7PM - Tri-clover Fire Company - To Be Determined
- [Club Picnic Planned for Sunday September 27th](#),
- [“POTA Adventures” on Saturday, September 19th, at Hickory Run State Park](#),

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!

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Calendar:

September 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	1 Club Meeting @ 7:30PM	2	3 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	4	5
6	7 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	8 Tesla Tuesday @ 8:00	9 Digital Mode Net – 145.550 @ 7:00PM	10 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	11	12 Multi-County Simplex Radio Test 146.550 1-2PM
13	14 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	15 Hands on Night @ 7PM	16	17 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	18	19 “POTA Adventures” - Hickory Run State Park
20 EPARA Hamfest	21 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	22 Tesla Tuesday @ 8:00	23 Digital Mode Net – 145.550 @ 7:00PM	24 2m FM Simplex – 147.42 @ 8:00PM	25	26
27 Club Picnic – Nockamixon Pavilion #1 10 AM to 2 PM	28 RACES/ARES Net @ 7:30PM 2m Net - 144.255 USB @ 8:15PM	29 Tesla Tuesday @ 8:00	30			

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Meet Your Club Treasurer:

From Call Signs to Connections...



Paul Ryan
NØKIA
Treasurer

1. **Why did you become a Ham and how long have you been licensed?** I'd been interested in electronics since the 1950's when I could walk to Federated Purchaser on Hamilton Street and purchase a shiny new CK722 to build projects from the pages of Popular Electronics and other magazines. This led directly into a military career playing with all sorts of "new" electronics gear. I finally took the Technician exam in mid-1989, while stationed at Peterson AFB in Colorado.
2. **How long have you been a LVARC member?** We returned to the Valley in late 1989 and I attended meetings at the DLARC and LVARC. On air, I had a better rapport with the crew on .94, so I've maintained a closer relationship with W3OI ever since. So, 37 years.
3. **Which parts of the hobby do you enjoy most?** I started out on VHF, graduated to HF, then digital (built my own BayCom modem in 1992!), then back to VHF, where I remain today. I have more equipment than ambition, so I guess you could say I enjoy collecting. Some would say dust.
4. **What else should we know about you?** I'm a normally pleasant, but sometimes grumpy, old man. Approach with caution as you would with any junkyard dog, bearing edible gifts.

QRV - The Ham Radio Multitool - Adam - K2CAT

Adam - K2CAT - will be presenting at our September Meeting on September 1. [QRV](#) is your digital ham radio multitool. It aims to solve one main problem: there are lots of great resources on the internet, but they are scattered, and most are not mobile-friendly. QRV collects everything in one place and can cross-reference them. It also has tons of calculators and reference materials.

By collating PSK Reporter and Reverse Beacon Network feeds, the app can give you a very detailed picture of what is workable *from your grid in the moment*. See which bands are open from your QTH and to which DXCC entities. Since the app knows your grid, you can set custom push notifications. For example:

- Get an alert when a specific DXpedition is spotted by someone in your grid.
- Get notified when a specific DXCC entity is workable from your QTH.
- Get general band activity alerts—great for when 6m has an opening.

Other features include location-based lightning notifications, band plans for 22 countries, calculators for popular antenna designs, QRZ and Wavelog logbook integration, POTA and SOTA spots, and easy callsign lookup.

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NEWSDR Workshop June 4-5,2026 - Chuck Ballard - W3CDY



I saw a notification about this meeting in a ham news publication and it sounded interesting. As a birthday treat, I decided to attend, as the cost (free) was attractive. The full title of the workshop was New England Software Defined Radio Workshop. It was held in the Atwater-Kent Laboratories building on the

campus of Worcester Polytechnical Institute (WPI).

Atwater-Kent was a fairly famous radio manufacturer in the 20's and 30's. I was somewhat familiar with them from the summer of my sophomore year at the University of Michigan, at a stint in Washington, DC, cataloging the George H. Clark Collection of Radio Memorabilia at the Museum of History and Technology (now the Museum of American History) of the Smithsonian Institution. Their laboratory building is now part of the Electrical Engineering Department of WPI.

The first thing I learned at the conference was that it was the 16th year it had been held, and it probably would have been better for me if it was number one (more on that later!)

Thursday evening was set up as a set of Tutorials (with Pizza). The tutorial I chose to attend was entitled "How to Build Your Own SDR". Well the main thing I learned from the lecture by a Flex Radio engineer, was why Flex Radios are so expensive. He started out describing a series of boards you could buy, such as an PLGA (Programmable Logic Gate Array) demo board that apparently goes for around \$1000 as a sample, two DAC demo boards around \$250 apiece, a Local

Oscillator demo board (around \$150), a mixer demo board (I gave up counting \$), a preamp demo board and filter modules, etc. Then he proceeded to tell us that you couldn't 'really' understand what you needed to do to build an SDR from these until you had 'smoked' one or two of these boards trying to mate them! In addition, he complained about how manufacturer's data sheets lied, and how he had to characterize all kinds of components like crystals to determine what their actual specs were. Needless to say, one of these do-it-yourself kits will NOT be on my Christmas list for 2026.

The next day had several presentations and a poster session by students from various universities about their SDR projects.

What I learned from the presentations was that current SDR research is concentrated on SDR frequencies of 6Ghz and higher (much higher). One of the areas where SDR's are being investigated is for frequency agile radars.

The first afternoon presentation after the free lunch, was by SigPro Labs - [RF in Slow Motion: Using Acoustics to Teach SDR Concepts](#) - who is developing a teaching module for translating SDR concepts into audio frequencies, so as to be able to use much cheaper components for an SDR concepts teaching course. They talked about a projected cost of \$30 per student module. The audio frequency conversion has some drawbacks, but does allow hardware and software to run in an SDR analogy mode for the basic concepts.

The poster session students were then invited to give a one minute "elevator" speech about their projects. The two projects I found most interesting, probably because they appeared very practical and I could understand the tech, were using

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drone-mounted SDR's to measure soil moisture using Ground Penetrating Radar. One of the projects had characterized moisture to a depth of 1 meter and the student felt that with large enough antennas on the drone, they could measure as deep as 10 meters, including ground water detection. I could see a use for this system in flooding emergencies, using a drone to measure actual water levels in flooded areas.

Some of the Other Presentations were:

- [Working in the Extremes of Radar](#)
- [Underwater Acoustic Communications](#)
- [The Great Observatory for Long Wavelengths - Harnessing SDR and Megaconstellations](#)
- [Wireless and All-Digital Synchronization of SDR's and Radars](#)
- [Motivations, Challenges and Opportunities to Catalyze Spectrum Coexistence \(Don't ask and I won't be able to Tell You\)](#)

BTW, another of the poster sessions was worried about trying to correctly time-stamp observations

sent by 'inexpensive (sic)' hardware because of the nano-second time delays in observations sent by SDR's due to their signal processing. (see reference above to Flex Radio)

One other interesting observation - There was a booth for one of the sponsors, Pi-Radio. The two engineers listed as the principals at the booth were from Flex-Radio and wore Flex-Radio logo shirts. Flex-Radio was also a sponsor, but didn't seem to have a booth. Inquiring minds want to know.....

The workshop ended by 5pm. My GPS lied in both directions, on different routes, so the 4.5 hour (sic) trip took 7 hours each way with and without NYC. Beware of Connecticut as they apparently brake for hallucinations, causing numerous traffic slowdowns without any visible cause.

Chuck Ballard
W3CDY

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LVARC VE August 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: Aug 2026

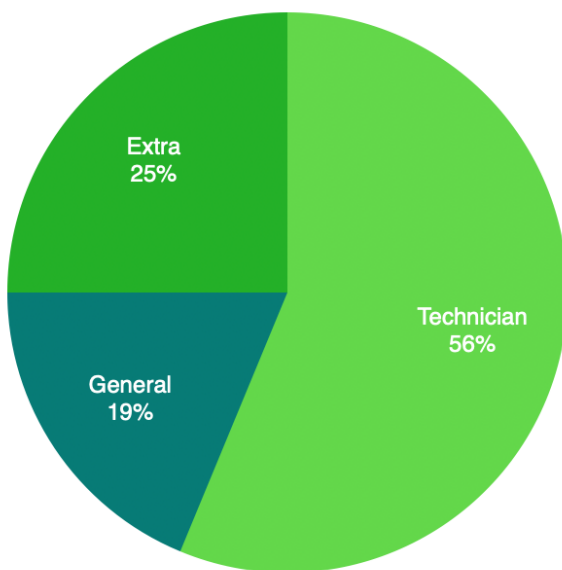
Candidate	Call Sign	Mem W3OI	Class
Collins, Robert P	K1RUN	✓	General
Hurst, Steve	KD3DTB		Technician
Redline, Donna M	N3TBB		Extra

Congratulations Hams!

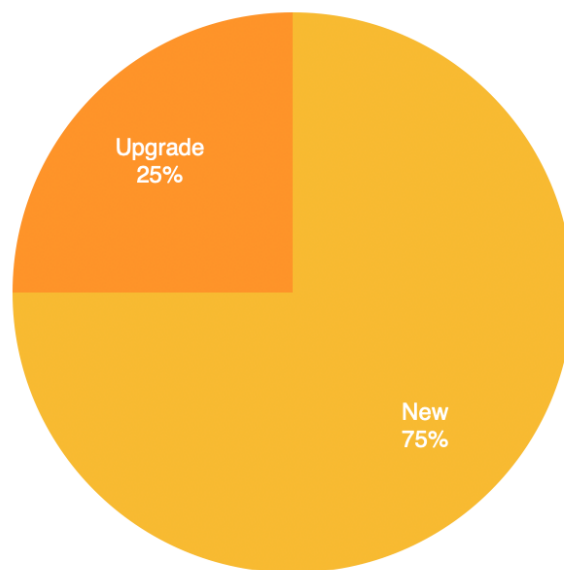
Simple Pass Rates: YTD

Technician			General		
Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass	Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass
13	12	92%	11	5	45%
Extra			All Elements		
Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass	Total Tests	Total Pass	Overall Pass
6	4	67%	30	21	70%

Licenses Earned by Class: YTD



Licenses Earned by Type: YTD



If you run into any of the people on the air waves - and they're not a member of W3OI - please encourage them to join!!!

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Winter Field Day - January 22nd, 23rd, 24th & maybe 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, 23rd, & 24th, 2027.

LVARC is planning on renting a cabin at Lake Nockamixon again. We are planning to have the cabin for two nights, Friday January 22nd and Saturday January 23rd. We will consider a 3rd night depending on interest. We will do a POTA activation of the part 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

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“POTA Adventures” - September 19th - Hickory Run State Park

Hey POTA Enthusiasts - it's time to get together and continue our “POTA Adventures”.

Matt - N3VAN and Tom KD3BZF will be camping at Hickory Run State Park. Plenty of room for parks on the air activation. No breakfast meet up for this parks on the air event as we will be having hot dogs offered at the campsites.

Primary Location

GPS: 41.02406, -75.698

Google Maps:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/njNbB5jFXSv3b9de6>

Camp-site 22 and 23; plenty of parking!

We will be listening on 2M NAT Simplex (146.520 MHz)

73 Matt N3VAN



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Club POTA - Valley Forge National Historical Park – US-0761

Following a great morning at the **Valley Forge Hamfest**, several of us kept the ham radio fun going with a **Parks on the Air activation at Valley Forge National Historical Park (US-0761)**.

Despite the hot summer weather, we had a great group of operators get on the air and successfully activate the park:

- **Tom – KD3BZF**, along with his wife Beth
- **Scotty – W3SGT**
- **Rob – KB3QLF**
- **Richard – KD3DGH**
- **Harold – KD3BFU**
- **Matt – N3VAN**



We also had several fellow ham radio enthusiasts stop by and watch the activation, including **Dave – KA2TSM**, **Mike – KC3UKX**, and a few others. It was a great opportunity to spend some time together after the hamfest, demonstrate portable operating, and put Valley Forge in the logs.

Club POTA After POTA – Evansburg State Park US-1351

Apparently one POTA activation wasn't enough!

After wrapping up at Valley Forge, a few of us headed over to **Evansburg State Park (US-1351)** for a little "POTA after POTA."

Making the second stop were:

- **Tom – KD3BZF**, along with Beth
- **Scotty – W3SGT**
- **Harold – KD3BFU**
- **Matt – N3VAN**



With the hot, sunny weather, we kept this activation fairly short. We got the station on the air, made the contacts we needed, and **successfully activated our second park of the day** before calling it quits.

Between the **Valley Forge Hamfest**, **Valley Forge National Historical Park**, and **Evansburg State Park**, it made for a full day of amateur radio, portable operating, and spending time with fellow hams.

Thanks to everyone who operated, stopped by, helped out, or simply joined us for the day. **Two parks activated after a hamfest—not a bad way to spend a summer day!**

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2026 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

Club T-Shirts - Pickup at the September Meeting

If you ordered and paid for the club T-Shirts or hats - please come to the September meeting to pick them up.

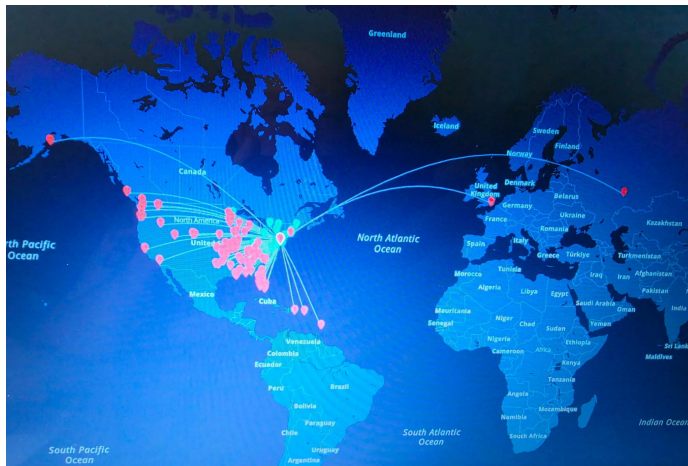


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Night Ops POTA at Nockamixon State Park – US-1391

On **August 6, 2026**, Tom – **KD3BZF** and Matt – **N3VAN** headed to **Nockamixon State Park (US-1391)** for a Parks on the Air activation with a different goal in mind: **Night Ops!** We arrived and got on the air before the UTC rollover, making **more than 20 contacts** before pausing for the UTC switch and the official start of our night operations activity.

For the activation, we set up an **End-Fed Random Wire with a 9:1 transformer** in an **Inverted-V configuration**, with the apex approximately **25 feet above the ground**. The antenna performed exceptionally well as the evening progressed.



Our contacts stretched across North America and well beyond. We worked stations in **Alaska, Vancouver, Washington, Oregon, California, Wyoming, Barbados, Russia, Scotland, and the United Kingdom**, along with plenty of contacts throughout the rest of the United States. We even got Scotty W3SGT in the logs!

The weather, however, made the night a little more interesting than planned. **Passing thunderstorms and lightning forced us to periodically shut down operations** and wait for the storms to safely move through. During one approximately 20-minute weather break, we

returned to the radio only to discover that another station had claimed our frequency, so we had to find a new spot and get things rolling again. Despite the interruptions, the contacts kept coming.

Tom and Matt continued operating until **just before midnight**, finishing an incredible evening with **more than 130 total contacts!**

Between the nighttime propagation, long-distance contacts, changing band conditions, and the challenge of working around the passing storms, it turned into one of those POTA activations we'll remember for a long time.

Night Ops at Nockamixon was a success, and Tom KD3BZF and Matt N3VAN are already looking forward to getting back out there for another nighttime Parks on the Air adventure!

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Club Picnic - Sunday September 27th:



**LEHIGH VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

Picnic

at

NOCKAMIXON PARK

PARKING LOT 1 PAVILION

LEHIGH VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
W3OI

Relax. Eat. Connect. Play Radio!

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27TH
2026**

**10:00 AM
to
2:00 PM**

**PARKING LOT 1
PAVILION
NOCKAMIXON PARK**

GREAT FOOD & GREAT COMPANY
Enjoy a delicious picnic lunch and good conversation with club members and their families.

PLAY RADIO & MAKE CONTACTS
Bring your gear and get on the air!
HF antennas will be up and ready to go.

TEST ANTENNAS & RADIO GEAR
Try out that new antenna, tune up your setup, and share tips with other operators.

Good Friends. Great Food. Ham Radio.

DON'T MISS IT!

LEHIGH VALLEY
W3OI
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Est. 1928

Join the **Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club** for our annual **Club Picnic** on **Sunday, September 27, 2026**, from **10:00 AM** until **2:00 PM** at **Nockamixon State Park, Pavilion #1**. This is a wonderful opportunity for members, their families, and friends to spend the day together enjoying great fellowship, delicious food, and the beautiful scenery overlooking Lake Nockamixon. Please bring a covered dish, chips, dessert, or another favorite food item to share as we enjoy an afternoon of conversation, laughter, and celebrating our shared passion for amateur radio.

For members who would like to get on the air, we'll also have the opportunity to participate in a **Parks on the Air (POTA)** activation from the park. Feel free to bring your HF radio, portable antennas, and operating gear if you'd like to make contacts or try your hand at activating the park. Whether you choose to operate, learn from experienced operators, or simply relax and enjoy the picnic, there will be something for everyone. We look forward to spending a fun and memorable day together with great food, great friends, and great amateur radio!

RSVP with Matt N3VAN
mvdanhoff@vanderhoff.net

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August 2026 Meeting Minutes:

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting

General Meeting DATE August 4, 2026

Combo Local and Remote via Zoom

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

Secret Word is QSO Party 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 37 members in attendance with 4 remote members (as per the email method) and 33 local attendees with 3 guests in attendance.

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 Present

Scotty Redfield W3SGT Present

Matthew Vanderhoff N3VAN Present

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Guests and Attendees of Note:

Greg Orris – KD3CYG

Ben Ramig – N3WR

Jay Reid – KC3ZFR

1 - Proceedings:

A motion was made to approve the July 2026 Meeting minutes as published in the August 2026 VOX newsletter. Motion to approve was made by Scotty (W3SGT) and 2nd by John (AB3LZ).

Motion Passed = Y

Program for tonight:

Rod (N3XG) will be doing a presentation on the Pa. QSO Party

2 - Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

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

Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Rick (KC3EXO) and 2nd by Matt (N3VAN)

Motion Passed = Y

3 - ARES & VE Report

VE Report:

VE testing at Field Day was a success. Learned some things by doing it remotely. Three tested and two passed. The next test session will be on August 20th.

ARES Report:

The Quadzilla event went well. Thank you to everyone that helped out.

Upcoming events are the Women's 5k Run on October 3rd and the D&L Marathon on November 15th.

4 - Communications:

Website:

No issues at this time.

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5 - Repeater report: by Rod N3XG.

No issues on the 94 repeater. John (AB3LZ) reported that there is an uncoordinated repeater coming into are repeater. Rod asked for an audio recording, and he will look into it.

6 - Club Station / Trailer:

The night that the trailer was to be cleaned up was cancelled due to the weather, The next tentative date is the Hands On Night on August 18th, listen to the Monday night net for more info

7 - Old Business:

The question was raised about a small games of chance license the club was going to look into getting. Rod mentioned the club needs a physical location to get a license. Due to this, the club cannot obtain one. Having the club station and meetings at the fire company doesn't qualify.

8 - New Business:

The club picnic will be on September 27th this year. It is being held at Nockamixon State Park. More info to follow. It was asked about expenses for the event. A motion was made by Scott (KB3YOT) and seconded by Rob (KD3BFW) to spend no more than \$200. The motion passed

The next POTA event will be this Sunday after the Valley Forge Hamfest. It will be held at the Valley Forge Park at 1 PM. Following that one will be on August 29th at Delaware State Park in Easton. We will meet for breakfast at the Hanover Eatery on Rt. 512 before the POTA event.

There will be an EmComm event this year on September 16th. AN email was sent out detailing the event. If the club wants to participate, we need to register for the event. We will also need someone to tow the trailer to the event. John (AB3LZ) will be the main contact for the event.

On September 12th there will be a simplex net in the Lehigh Valley. Check the website calendar for more info.

8a - New Members:

Rocco Rodriguez – KD3CLZ

Sebastian Zeiders – KD3DMF

Frank Johnston – KE3RR

A motion was made by Mike (KC3UCX) and seconded by Scotty (W3SGT) to accept the new members.

Motion Passed: Y

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9 - Sick Call

Nothing to report

10 - Good of the Order:

Rod would like to thank all the net controllers for the time they give to run the weekly nets. If anyone is interested in being a net controller, contact Rod.

Paul stated that W3OI repeater guidelines are on the website. Check them out and familiarize yourself with them.

The W3OK club is looking at sponsoring a hamfest next year. They were wondering if W3OI would partner with them to the event. They suggested having two members from each club be the main coordinators. The board will discuss the idea and get back to the members.

Upcoming Hamfests as reported by Mike (KC3UCX):

Reading Radio Club – August 29, 2026

Kutztown Antique Radio & Vintage Electronics Meet – September 18 & 19, 2026

EPARA Hamfest – September 20, 2026

ARRL Southern NJ Section Convention & Annual GCARC Hamfest – October 11, 2026

RF Hill ARC Hamfest – October 18, 2026

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt (N3VAN) and 2nd by Scott (KB3YOT)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted Phillip Bigg KB3HMK, Secretary

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Monthly Net Report

July Net Report:

Monday ARES / ACS Net:

7/6 52

7/13 57

7/20 56

7/27 52

Total: 217

Monday 2m SSB:

7/6 7

7/13 6

7/20 8

7/27 8

Total: 29

Tesla Tuesday:

7/14 6

7/21 6

7/28 8

Total: 20

Wednesday Digital:

7/8 4

7/22 4

Total: 8

Thursday 2m FM Simplex

7/02 6

7/9 5

7/16 4

7/23 5

7/30 7

Total: 27

Net Manager wishes to thank all of the help while I was on vacation. We could not have quality nets without net control stations and 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



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LVARC Gettysburg Club Field Trip - A Day of History & Radio!

Join your fellow **LVARC** members for a **club field trip to Gettysburg** for a fun day combining **American history, amateur radio, and Parks on the Air!** We're planning a group trip to explore the historic Gettysburg area, spend some time touring the battlefield, and get on the air for a **POTA activation** with fellow club members. Whether you're an experienced activator, new to POTA, interested in history, or simply want to enjoy a great day with the club, everyone is welcome!

If we have enough members sign up, the club may arrange a **van for group transportation** to Gettysburg. If we don't have enough participation for a van, we'll coordinate **carpooling** so everyone who wants to attend has an opportunity to join us.



Interested in going? Please fill out the survey below so we can begin planning transportation and the day's activities:

LVARC Gettysburg Field Trip Survey:

<https://www.w3oi.org/club-field-trip/>

If you have any questions about the trip, please contact **Matt, N3VAN**. We hope you'll join us for a great day of history, radio, and camaraderie in Gettysburg!

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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 the function of the Variable Frequency Oscillator (VFO) circuit in a transceiver?

- A. Set the receive and transmit frequency
- B. Provide automatic frequency control
- C. Inject a variable frequency to allow CW reception
- D. Generate and demodulate single sideband signals

General:

Q: How does forward error correction (FEC) allow the receiver to correct data errors?

- A. By controlling transmitter output power for optimum signal strength
- B. By using the Varicode character set
- C. By transmitting redundant information with the data
- D. By using a parity bit with each character

Amateur Extra:

Q: How much gain does an antenna have compared to a half-wavelength dipole if it has 6 dB gain over an isotropic radiator?

- A. 3.85 dB
- B. 6.0 dB
- C. 8.15 dB
- D. 2.79 dB

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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 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.

October 16th 2026, December 18th 2026

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 *******

The VOX

Hamfests

[KUTZTOWN ANTIQUE RADIO & VINTAGE ELECTRONICS MEET](#)

Friday September 18 - 10AM-5PM
Saturday September 19 - 8AM-3PM
740 Noble St. Kutztown, PA

[EPARA Hamfest](#)

Sunday September 20th - 8AM-1PM
705 Stokes Mill Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

Red Rose Repeater Hamfest
October 3rd
New Holland, PA

Expect More Info in the September VOX

[Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)

October 11th - 8AM-1PM
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds
235 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77)
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

RF Hill Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
October 18th

Upper Campus: Bucks County Community College
346 Blooming Glen Road, Perkasie, PA 18944

Huntsville Hamfest

The ARRL held their Annual Convention at the Huntsville Hamfest. Dan Longo (KC3HWD) and Mike Tyniec (AC3OT) planned a trip down to experience the ARRL Annual Convention and the Huntsville Hamfest.



On Friday evening the ARRL hosted a dinner at the Wernher Von Braun [Rocket Center](#). The purpose of the dinner was to promote the [ARRL's Teacher's Institute](#). Wayne Greene, KB4DSF, is the new Education & Learning Manager at the ARRL. He discussed how the ARRL is reaching out to teachers across the country and offering them an opportunity to obtain Continuing

Education Credits and bring back information to students about Wireless Technologies. There were approximately 200 people in attendance at the dinner and their donations provided funds that will enable one teacher to attend a four day learning session at ARRL headquarters.



The VOX

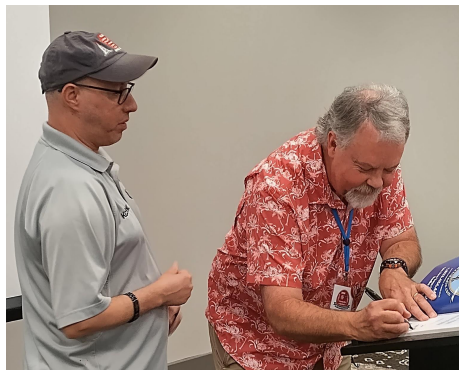
On Saturday Dan and Mike attended a number of forums that were hosted by the ARRL. The first session was titled “Growing Amateur Radio Through Vibrant Clubs”. There were many lessons learned about how clubs can help new hams with advice and guidance, new ideas, and the importance of social connections that help build participation in our hobby. The ARRL also discussed how new hams enter the hobby - change of life, change of circumstances, and disasters. They stressed that vibrant clubs are active, welcoming, easily found and encourage new leadership. We are fortunate at W3OI/LVARC we have these in spades.

Since 2026 is the [ARRL's Year of the Club](#) - they offered advice and the importance of the [ARRL's Marconi Program](#) to help clubs reach out to the community and build a vibrant club.

Following this session we attended one titled “Engaging the Next Generation Radio Amateurs”. The focus is not only on young and new members - but helping existing hams - or those that have stepped away from the hobby - get more involved in the hobby and with their club. The ARRL's mission is “to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs”.

The ARRL highlighted that their [scholarship program](#) provided over \$780,000 in funds in 2026. This was broken down into 163+ scholarships.

During the hamfest we came across one of our own. Although Matt (N3VAN) wasn't in attendance - his antennas were!



Dan also had a copy of Salty Walt's (K4OGO) “Portable Antenna Sketchbook” signed.



After the hamfest was over on Saturday we headed over to the Gigaparts store for ice cream and to enter a drawing for the upcoming Kenwood™-D750A radio.

Here are a couple more photos:



The VOX

Reading Radio Club Online Classes

The Reading Radio Club is collecting interest for a FREE online Amateur Radio training class for all license levels.

The online classes would meet twice a week for 2 hours online via WebEx, -- with every session recorded. If your unable to attend a class for any reason, or want to review content -- the student can review the class material anytime during the 8 week course. Study materials and training summaries and study guides are provided. After completing the training class, the Reading Radio Club will host an in-person exam session. The ARRL exam fee is \$15.00. Students are welcome to schedule their exam with any other VE team if they prefer. We are currently collecting names and training time preferences at this time. Once fifteen people have expressed interest in a particular license class, we will schedule the full series of online classes.

To register your interest, visit <http://training.W2SLH.com>

If you have questions, contact **Stuart, the RRC VE team lead. His phone number is 484-339-3456**, or if you prefer you can email him at training@W2SLH.com.

Trivia/Tech Net - Answers

Tech: A. Set the receive and transmit frequency
General: C. By transmitting redundant information with the data
Extra: A. 3.85 dB