



The VOX

The Official **On-Line**
Newsletter of the



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI / KB3SYV
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA



Officers

President: Rod Wolfe, Jr. - N3XG (n3xg.radio@gmail.com)

Vice President: Brian Klock - KW3K (KW3K@kw3k.com)

Secretary: Phillip Bigg - KB3HMK (philbert17@ptd.net)

Treasurer: Brian Snyder - KB3QHA (brian@teamsnyder.net)



Board of Governors

Chuck Ballard - WB6CDY (wb6cdy@arrl.net)

Gary Decker - W3GRD (SCOUTIH79@YAHOO.COM)

Robin Gable - KB3GZV (kb3gzv@arrl.net)

Matthew Kriebel - KB3UZE (kriebz@gmail.com)

Paul Ryan - N0KIA (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (AK3M) ---- AK3M@rcn.com)

Webmaster- Paul Ryan (N0KIA) ----- (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

LVARC Repeaters

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)

147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)

447.775 (PL 71.9)

Club Simplex Freq. - 147.420

D-Star

W3OI Dstar repeaters are now on W3OI at 147.165, W3EPE at 445.225 and W3OK at 145.110

Join us for a Mid-Atlantic regional net Tuesdays on the 147.165 port at 7:30 pm.

To register for the Gateway or need information on setting up the radio, please visit
<https://24.229.28.14/Dstar.do>

LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)

146.940 (PL 71.9)

W3OI Home Page: <http://www.w3oi.org>

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IMPORTANT -- de Mark (AK3M)



CHANGE IN TESTING PROGRAM! Testing will be held the **3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm**. The **NEW LOCATION** will be **HANOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on Jacksonville Road in Bethlehem, PA. **REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.** *The deadline to register is the Sunday before the test session.*

3890 Jacksonville Road --- Bethlehem, 18017-9307



Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The December, 2013 LVARC meeting will be held on December 3, 2013 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company at 7:30



LVARC / RACES NET

Don't forget to check into the Monday Night LC/LVARC/RACES Net on 146.94 (PL 71.9) with an alternate frequency of 147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)
The Net begins at 7:30 pm local time (ET).

**Many club announcements
will be heard there !**

Monday Night RACES/ARES Check-In Summary - 2013

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Number of Check-In's</u> | <u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| January | 108 | 4 |
| February | 105 | 4 |
| March | 133 | 4 |
| April | 132 | 5 |
| May | 87 | 3 |
| June | 108 | 4 |
| July | 140 | 4 |
| August | 128 | 4 |
| September | 117 | 4 |
| October | 122 | 4 |



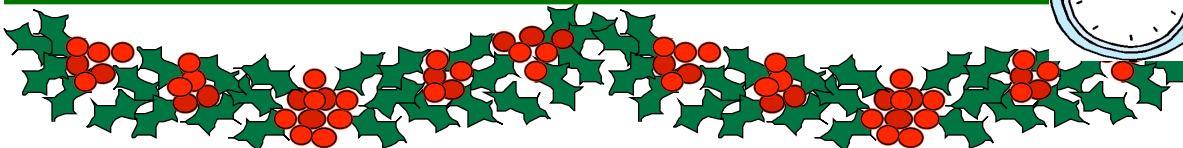
If you are not receiving the VOX via email from me, you need to send me an email so I can add/correct your email address on my list *Mark (AK3M)*. Remember, you can always read the newsletter from the W3OI website

<http://www.w3oi.org/dates2013.htm#newsletters>



Minutes of the November, 2013 LVARC Meeting

de - Phil (KB3HMK)



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1935 Hrs, (EST).

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

There were a total of 24 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 1 guest. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod – N3XG, Brian – KW3K, Phil – KB3HMK, Brian – KB3QHA, Paul – N0KIA, Robin – KB3GZV, Chuck – WB6CDY and Gary – N3GRD.

Guests: Stephen Haas (No call sign)

Corrections additions to the minutes: None noted

Approved by: Chuck – WB6CDY

Second by: Walt – KE3SP

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report: (Brian – KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$3,663.65

Ending Balance: \$3,738.12

Approved by: Carl – AA3IX

Second by: Rex – KC1WE

Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: The receive side of the D-Star repeater is not working. The transmit side still works. The VHF portion is still working. Rod will let the members know when it is fixed. No problems with the 94 repeater. There is a hum on the 135 repeater. It will be looked into.

Program: Tonight's program will be done by Rod (N3XG). His topic will be "How to read HF propagation. December's meeting is the annual cookie cruncher. Please bring some type of food or dessert for everyone to enjoy.

Volunteer Examiners: At the October 18 2013 test session, four tested and four passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Rex Mott (KC1WE) --- Extra

Karl Buesgen (KB3YBC) --- General

Ken Bass --- Technician

Mike Mandell --- Technician

Mike Mandell and Ken Bass received their calls on October 28, 2013. Ken is now KC3BLE and Mike's new call is KC3BLF.

Tax Exempt: The club received a letter from the IRS stating that they received our application. More info to follow.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

Club Station: The Upper Milford Twp. commissioners had their monthly meeting. They were in favor of continuing possibilities of the club having a station there. We have not entered into any agreement with the township. If there are any members who have suggestions for a possible station site, please contact the committee.

Old Business: The D&L Heritage marathon was held on November 3. It was a great success. Rod and Brian thanked everyone who helped out. The Women's 5K run went well. Rod thanked the members who came out to help.

The Hanover Township Fall 5K will be held on Saturday November 9, 2013. All positions requested by the eventcoordinator have been filled!

Rex asked who should be contacted if a member knows of an event that needs communications. Rod said to contact him.

The club presented Ed Wagner (W3HER) and his wife with a plaque and a gift certificate to Red Lobster. Ed was thankful and was surprised. Ed donated the equipment for our future club station. Rod is now taking nominations for the Pres Schuyler award. He will take them up until November 19. Contact him if you would like to nominate a club member.

Rod noted that the secretary has received e-mails from Brian (KW3K) and Matt (KB3UZE) accepting their nominations.

Rod asked for a motion to reopen nominations for the 2014 officers. Chuck (WB6CDY) made the motion and it was seconded by John (AB3LZ). The motion passed. The following is the list of nominations:

President: No Nominations

Treasurer: No Nominations

Vice President : No Nominations

Board of Governors: No Nominations

Secretary: No Nominations

Rod then asked for a motion to close the nominations. Charlie (AB3RP) made the motion and it was seconded by John (AB3LZ). The motion passed.

New Business: On January 17, the ARRL will be doing a VHF contest. Myles (KB3ZMA) wanted to know if there were any club members interested in participating. He said that we will only do it on Saturday. Contact Myles if interested.

Rod asked for a motion to declare all unopposed candidates elected. The motion was made by Gary (W3GRD) and seconded by Chuck (WB6CDY). The motion passed.

The new member applications were voted on. See below for info.

Good of the Order: Dave brought some old equipment in that belonged to Bill Bechtel (K3VDW). You are welcome to take it. Brian found some interesting facts on the percentage of amateur operators per state licensing. Utah has highest number of licensed amateurs. They are currently at .66%.

Paul has power poles for sale. See him after the meeting if interested.

New member applicants: Robert James - AB3RC, Michael Mandell - KC3BLF

New Members Motion to Accept by: Rex – KC1WE

Second by: Charlie – AB3RP

Carried (Y/N) Y

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2026 hrs, (EST.)

Motion by: Chuck – WB6CDY

Second by: Dave – N3XGE

In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$

Balance ending October 2013 - \$3,738.12



This Month In Ham Radio

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 ARES RACES Net 7:30 KB3UZE Matt | 3 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30 | 4 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 5 | 6 St. Nicholas Day | 7 Pearl Harbor Day  |
| 8 National Brownie Day | 9 ARES RACES Net 7:30 KB3GZV Robin | 10 Human Rights Day | 11 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 12 Poinsettia Day | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Deadline to schedule test | 16 ARES RACES Net 7:30 KB3GZW Dorian | 17 LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover | 18 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255 | 19 Oatmeal Muffin Day | 20 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm | 21 Humbug Day |
| 22 National Date Nut Bread Day | 23 ARES RACES Net 7:30 N3XG Rod | 24  Christmas Eve | 25  Christmas Day | 26 Boxing Day | 27 Make Cut Out Snowflakes Day | 28 Card Playing Day |
| 29 | 30 ARES RACES Net 7:30 Mark AK3M | 31 New Year's Eve  | <i>December</i> <i>2013</i> | | | |

LVARC meeting - Tuesday December 3 - 7:30 - Tri - Clover FC

Test session - December 20 - Hanover Elementary School - 6:30 pm.

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday December 2 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Tuesday December 3 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)

Monday December 9 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Sunday December 15 --- Deadline for scheduling the test session

Monday December 16 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Tuesday December 17 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)

Friday December 20 --- VE test session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

Monday December 23 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

Monday December 30 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)

2013

There may be additions and deletions to the above dates. Listen to the Monday Night Net, the newsletter and announcements at meetings for changes.

LVARC
VE
Report

de Mark (AK3M)

Four tested at the October 18 test session and four passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Rex Mott (KC1WE) --- Extra
Karl Buesgen (KB3YBC) --- General
Ken Bass --- Technician
Mike Mandell --- Technician

LVARC
VE
Program



VE's in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Don (W3DLH) and Frank (W3FTU)

REMEMBER: The LVARC offers amateur radio testing. If you want to obtain your entry level license or if you wish to upgrade, the LVARC can help.

Test sessions are given the 3rd Friday of each month. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED!!!** To schedule a test or for more information, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.



Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in this newsletter? Send it to Mark (AK3M). You can submit VOX material in any form. Send it via email (AK3M@rcn.com) or US mail (5508 Hale Ave - Bethlehem, PA 18017). You can send pictures, diagrams or text. **The newsletter needs YOUR material to continue!**

2013 LVARC Events/Activities

December 3, 2013

Elections for 2014 officers

Annual Holiday party

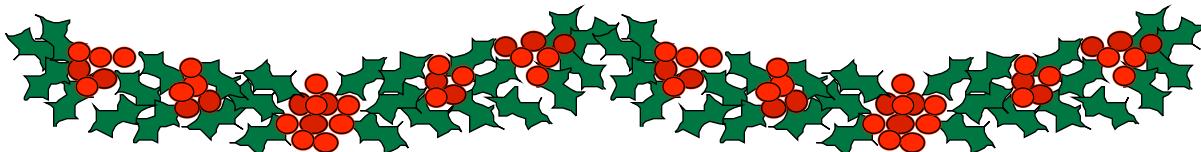
**Track Santa on
Christmas Eve!**



(Begin on Dec. 1 for countdown)

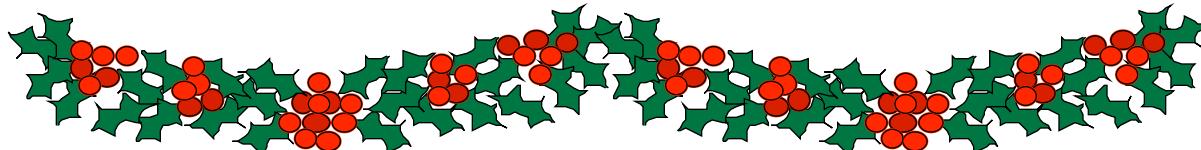
<http://www.noradsanta.org/>

The Digbees



900 MHz HTs For Sale

The LVARC has several Motorola GTX hand held radios for sale. They are reprogrammed to amateur frequencies in the 900 MHz (33 cm) band. Included, are DC and drop in AC chargers. The price for the package is **\$50.00**. This is a great way to get on 900 MHz for a small cost while helping the LVARC treasury. If interested in purchasing one or more of these HT's, contact **Brian (KW3K)** at **KW3K@kw3k.com**.



Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling. --- Edna Ferber

VOTE ✓

The **nominations for LVARC officers and Board of Governors** closed at the November 2013 LVARC business meeting. The following is the **final slate**.

Voting will held be at the December 3, 2013 meeting prior to the annual holiday party.



President: Rod (N3XG) - *unopposed*

Vice President: Brian (KW3K) - *unopposed*

Secretary: John (AB3LZ) - *unopposed*

Treasurer: Brian (KB3QHA) - *unopposed*

BOG: (vote for 5)

Paul: (N0KIA)

Robin: (KB3GZV)

Gary: (W3GRD)

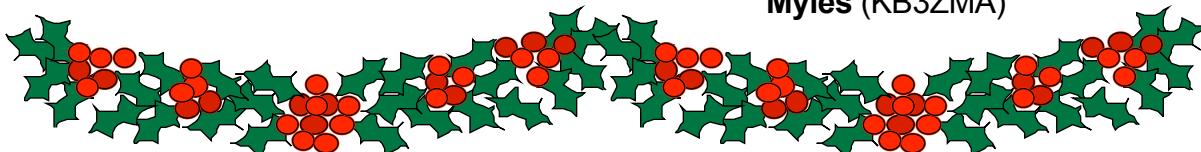
Matt: (KB3UZE)

Chuck: (WB6CDY)

Scott: (KB3YOT)

Phil: (KB3HMK)

Myles: (KB3ZMA)



Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club's Annual Holiday Party

The Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club's Annual Holiday Party will be held on the night of the December meeting (Tuesday December 3, 2013) following the regular business meeting.

The party consists of food, food and more food accompanied by plenty of conversation with LVARC members.

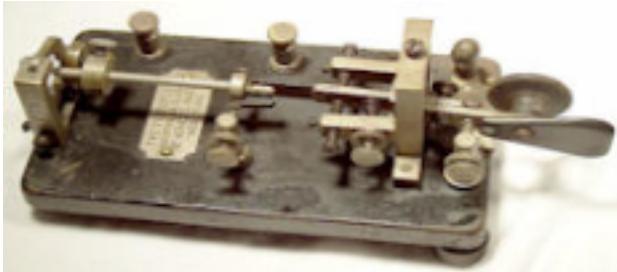


Please remember to include plates, napkins, cups or whatever is needed to accompany your submission.

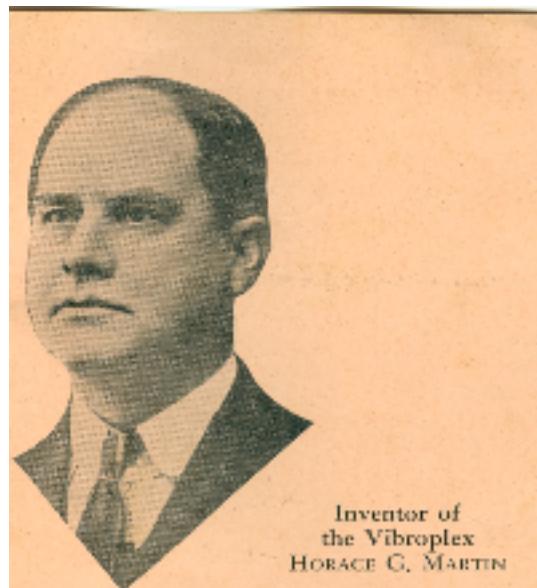


READER SUBMISSION de Frank (W3FTU)

Last month, you saw how a Vibroplex keyer helped prevent "telegrapher's paralysis". Presented on the right is the inventor of the Vibroplex keyer. The article is really from the manual included with his keyers. A picture of the manual will appear in the January 2014 VOX (ed).



"Having experimented for some time on automatic transmitters and having the occasion to observe the very interesting achievements of other workers in the automatic field. I decided that there was a demand for a small, simple and portable sending machine which, while being automatic or nearly so, would, as nearly as possible, retain the merits but not the demerits of the old Morse key." --- Horace G. Martin, February 1903 (<http://www.telegraph-history.org/horace-g-martin/>)



Inventor of
the Vibroplex
HORACE G. MARTIN

Although yet a young man, Mr. Martin has nevertheless won an enviable reputation in the telegraph world, both as a telegrapher of unusual skill and as an inventor. Early in life he acquired the art of telegraphy and his telegraphic experience embraces the Railroad, Western Union, Postal, the United Press and Associated Press, besides a number of newspaper and broker engagements.

While regarded as one of the finest, all-round telegraphers in the United States, Mr. Martin's greatest reputation has been acquired as an inventor of telegraphic apparatus. Among these inventions the most important is the Martin Vibroplex, models of which are illustrated elsewhere in this booklet.



The 2013 Women's 5K Classic was held on Saturday

October 12. Although the distance did not compare to the recent Via Marathon, the number of runners in this event neared 4,000!



The weather cooperated and there were no rain or snow showers for this year's event! LVARC operators arrived about 0730 to a bustling center of activity by the event volunteers. A directed net



was established at 0915 with all 14 LVARC communications support personnel at their assigned stations. Traffic was light and only one piece of priority traffic was handled for a sprained ankle. Allentown EMS handled this incident. The net was closed at 1120. The 14 participants included, **Mark** (AK3M), **John** (AB3LZ), **Alan** (KB3TYE), **Jared** (KB3TYD), **Larry** (NR3R), **Gary** (W3GRD), **Ryan** (KB3MPX), **Don** (N0VGA), **Bob** (WB3JSZ), **Rex** (KC1WE), **Kent** (KC3AFW), **Scott** (KB3YOT), **Judy** (KB3YOS) and **Paul** (NOKIA). A BIG TNX to **Jeff** (N3MFT) for bringing the South Whitehall response vehicle which was loaded with radio equipment! This made for reliable communications among Net Control to the field operators. **Thanks** to all who participated. ARES events like this one would not be possible without the dedication of the LVARC members. Below and on pages 12 & 13 are pictures submitted by the operators from their stations.



A big TNX to Missi for again allowing us to serve their event!



Photos courtesy of **Larry** (NR3R)

(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. on page 12)

(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. from page 11)



Photos courtesy of **Bob** (WB3JSZ) - (above)



Photos courtesy of **Judy**
(KB3YOS) - (above)



(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. on page 13)

(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. from page 12)



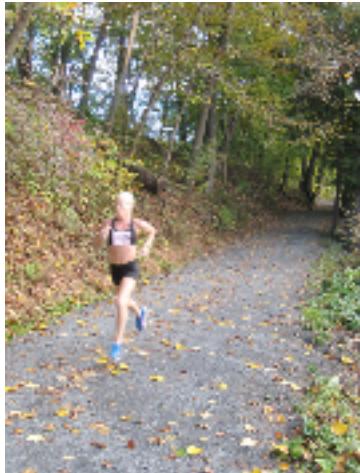
Photos courtesy of John (AB3LZ) - (above)



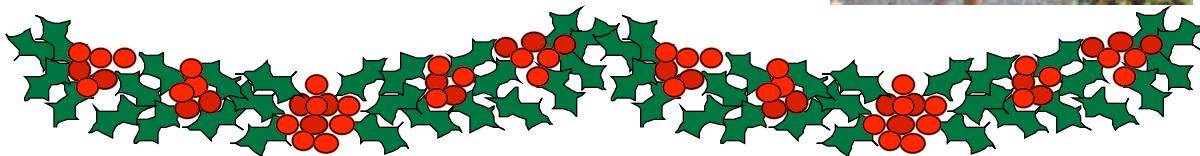
Photos courtesy of Gary (W3GRD) - (above)

(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. on page 14)

(2013 Women's 5K Classic cont. from page 13)



Photos courtesy of Don
(N0VGA) (W3GRD)

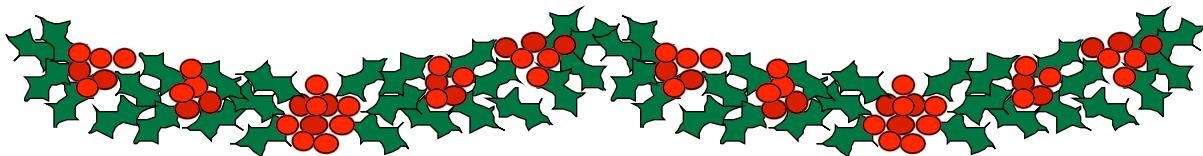


Need a Christmas present for a Ham?

Try a Christmas tree ornament!

See this and other ornaments at **TNTEGiftsStore** at:

http://www.etgiftstore.com/worlds-greatest_ham-ornament-detail.htm

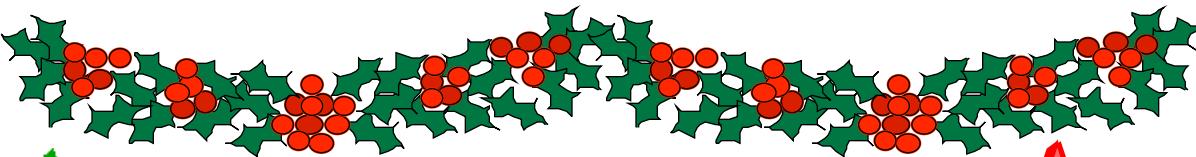


Ghosts of Christmas Past

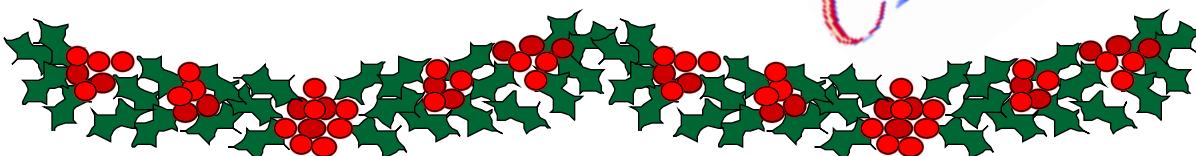
<http://www.kb6nu.com/a-ham-radio-christmas/>



LVARC dues for 2014 are now being accepted. Dues can be paid to **Brian (KB3QHA)** (1) at a meeting, (2) via PayPal or (3) send to Brian via US mail. Dues have **NOT** increased in many years. **Dues are \$17.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a household.**



New Hams: Mike Mandell and Ken Bass, who tested at the October 18, 2013 test session, received their calls on October 28, 2013. Ken is now **KC3BLE** and Mike's new call is **KC3BLF**. **CONGRATULATIONS Ken and Mike!**

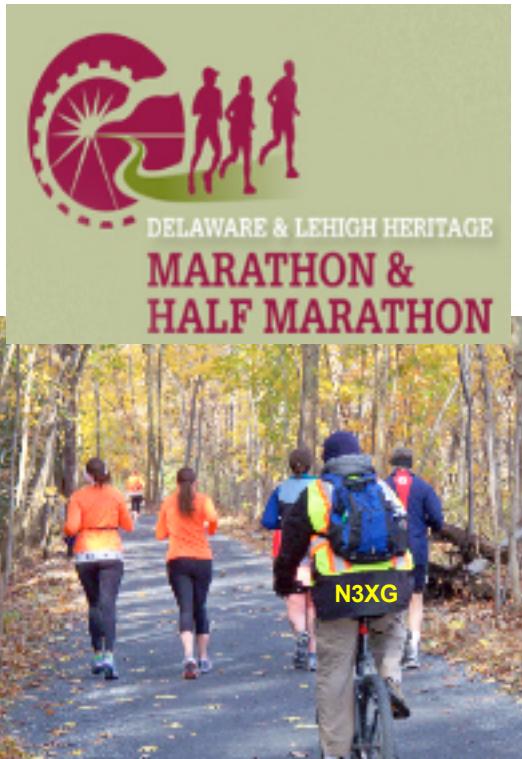


READER SUBMISSION - de Myles (KB3ZMA)

The LVARC will be participating in the January **ARRL VHF contest, Saturday January 18th 2014**. If you are interested in participating or, would like more information **contact Myles (KB3ZMA)** at Myles@holencikroofing.com or 484-221-4085.



Objective: For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada.

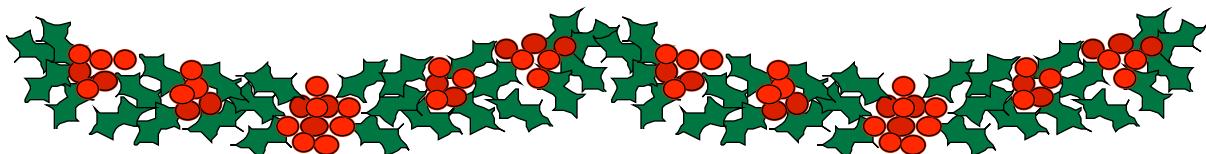


READER SUBMISSION de Judy (KB3YOS)

D&L Marathon - The D&L Marathon was held on Sunday November 3, 2013. LVARC operators again provided the communications support for this event.



Photos courtesy of Judy (KB3YOS)



Hanover Township Fall 5K - de Mark (AK3M)

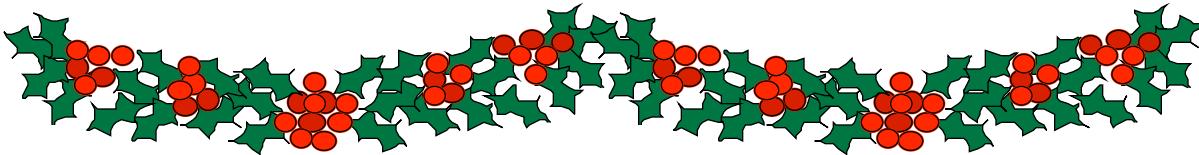


The **Hanover Township** (Northampton County) **Fall 5K** was held on a very chilly Saturday morning on November 9, 2013. **Scott (KB3YOT)** and **Judy (KB3YOS)** stepped up and acted as net control operators in my absence. This was their first time acting as any kind of net control operators and they did an ***outstanding job!*** There were about 100 runners in this event and all went well. Communications operators participating, included **Scott (KB3YOT)** and **Judy (KB3YOS)**, **Don (W3DLH)**, **Myles (KB3ZMA)**, **Frank (W3FTU)**, **Don (N0VGA)**, **Bob (KE3AW)**, **Paul (N0KIA)**, and **Larry (KC3ANC)**. **KUDOS to all the operators who performed flawlessly providing excellent communications support for this, the last ARES event of the 2013 year.**

READER SUBMISSION - de Gary (W3GRD)

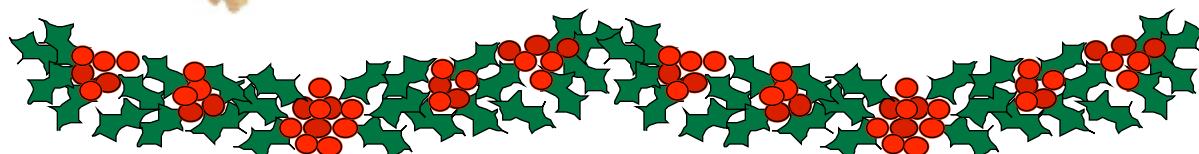
"Moose and Squirrel Net"

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CF7r_FeXCA



Origin of the Christmas tree

A fir tree hung with apples was used to symbolize the Garden of Eden



The LVARC officers and board wish all a happy holiday season and a prosperous 2014!