

# The *E-VOX*

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## The Official *On-Line* Newsletter of the *Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI*



**Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA**

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### Officers

**President:** Rod Wolfe, Jr. - N3XG (rjwolfe@rcn.com)

**Vice President:** Walt Snyder - KE3SP (SBWALLY@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Phillip Bigg - KB3HMK (philbert@enter.net)

**Treasurer:** Paul Ryan - N0KIA (n0kia@arrl.net)

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### Board of Governors

**Robin Gable** - KB3GZV (kb3gzw@arrl.net)

**Jim Kelly** - KA3UQP (kellyj6@ptd.net)

**Mark S. Miller** - AK3M (AK3M@rcn.com)

**Willie Robertson** - AB3BS (WILLIETR@BELLATLANTIC.NET)

**Frank Unger** - W3FTU (funger@enter.net)

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**E-VOX Editor** - Mark S. Miller (AK3M) (AK3M@rcn.com) or (AK3M@arrl.net)

**Webmaster** - Paul Ryan (N0KIA) (n0kia@arrl.net)



### Repeaters

**146.340/146.940 (PL 71.9)**

**147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)**

### RACES NET

**Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)**

**146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)**

**All are welcome !**



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



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**Field Day  
June 25 & 26**



The June LVARC meeting will be held on  
June 7, 2005 at the Red Cross Building at 7:30 pm.

**Program:** *Tornado Videos*

**Presenter:** Mark Staller (N3ULR)



## 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 - 2005

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Check-In's</u>	<u>Number of Mondays</u>
January	169	5
February	130	4
March	126	4
April	131	4





## Minutes of the May 3, 2005 Meeting

de Phil (KB3HMK), - Secretary - LVARC

### Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club (W3OI) Meeting Minutes



Date: May 3, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1932 Hrs, (EST / EDST).

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

There were a total of 16 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 0 guests. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod – N3XG, Walt – KE3SP, Phil – KB3HMK, Paul – N0KIA, Mark – AK3M, Frank – W3FTU, Willie – AB3BS, Robin – KB3GZV.

Corrections Additions to the minutes: None noted

Approved by:

Second by:

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report (Paul - N0KIA)

Beginning balance: \$1,330.13

Ending balance: \$1,050.40

Approved by:

Second by:

Carried: (Y/N) Y

#### Committee Reports:

**Repeater:** Cat Country is still interfering with the 146.94 repeater. The problem will hopefully be resolved. The 147.135 repeater is in good working order. Rod will get with Jeff Kelly to figure out a schedule for maintenance.

**Program:** Tonight's program will be Paul (N0KIA). He will be doing part 3 of the Elmer 101 Basic Electronics course. The program for June will be Mark (N3ULR). He has two videos on tornadoes and what to look for. The club had the annual dinner meeting in April. We had a very good turnout and everyone enjoyed themselves.

**Volunteer Examiners:** Sherwood Miltenberger, Jr. (AB3DA) upgraded from technician to extra class. Tonight, Kevin Lundy (KC0TTY) upgraded from technician to general. A thank you went out to Walt and Frank for helping out as v.e.'s. Next test session will be May 20.



**Field Day:** This years Field day will be held at the Whitehall Parkway in Whitehall Twsp.. The dates are June 25 & 26. Rod will be calling the members to see who will be attending at what they can bring. Whitehall Twsp. Officials were contacted about the event. The club looks forward to having a good time.

**Web Site:** The website is up and running with no problems noted.

**Education:** Rod did some research into the Emcomm 1 course. He has people that are willing to be mentors for the course. Rod is also doing a proposal to get funding from Lehigh County through the Limerick project. A surcharge will be applied for any non Lehigh County members who take the course.

**Old Business:** The club will hold its 1st annual ham auction prior to the start of the June meeting. It will be held inside the Red Cross building. The announcer will be Tom (K3ARI). The buyer will pay the seller, and at the end, the seller will pay the club. The club gets 50% and the seller gets 50%. If this is a success, we will look at having it in the U.G.I. parking lot next time. Frank will e-mail the members with the items that will be auctioned off. If you have any ham related items and want to auction them, let Frank (W3FTU) know.

**New Business:** Bruce (KA3ONZ) is currently in Westminster Village due to certain illnesses. If you would like to contact Bruce or send him a card, you can get the information from Mark (AK3M). If you know of anyone in the hospital, let Rod know. He has a Motorola GP68 radio that he is willing to lend to club members for use during their stay in the hospital or care facility. Mark (AK3M) is stepping down as the District 2 Emergency Coordinator. If anyone is interested in the position, please contact Mark. Rod just completed the Emcomm 3 course. He recommends that members continue to take courses 2 & 3 after completing course 1.

New members/Guests: No new members or guests

New Members Motion to Accept by:

Second by:

Carried (Y/N)

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2001 hrs, EST.

Motion by: Mark – AK3M

Second by: Willie – AB3BS

In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary

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

Balance as of April 30, 2005 - \$1,050.40





## This Month In Ham Radio

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>RSGB National Field Day</b>
<b>RSGB National Field Day</b>	<b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b> Robin KB3GZV	<b>LVARC Meeting Red Cross 7:30</b>				<b>World Radio Friend's Day QSO Party</b>
<b>World Radio Friend's Day QSO Party</b>						<b>Asia Pacific Sprint SSB</b>
<b>Deadline to schedule test session</b>	<b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b> Dorian KB3GZW			<b>SARL Kid's Day</b>	<b>LVARC VE Test Session 7:00 pm</b>	<b>West Virginia QSO Party</b>
GACW DX Contest CW						<b>Quebec QSO Party</b>
<b>West Virginia QSO Party</b>	<b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b> Paul NOKIA					<b>Field Day</b>
<b>Quebec QSO Party</b>						
<b>Field Day</b>	<b>ARES RACES Net 7:30</b> Jeff N3MFT					<b>RSGB 80m Champion SSB</b>
						<b>June 2005</b>

**LVARC Meeting -Tuesday June 7, 2005 7:30 pm at the Red Cross  
Test Session - Friday June 17- 7:00 pm - Red Cross Bldg.**



## LVARC Activities/Events Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



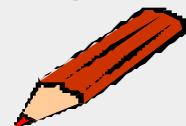
- Monday June 6 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**
- Tuesday June 7 --- LVARC Meeting - 7:30 PM (Red Cross Bldg.)**
- Monday June 13 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**
- Friday June 17 --- Test Session (7:00 Red Cross Building)**
- Monday June 20 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**
- Saturday & Sunday --- June 25 & 26 --- Field Day**
- Monday June 27 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)**

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



**REMEMBER:** The LVARC offers all levels of 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 IS REQUIRED!!!** Registration must be made no later than the Sunday before the Friday test session.



To schedule a test or for more information, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.



## LVARC Member Retires

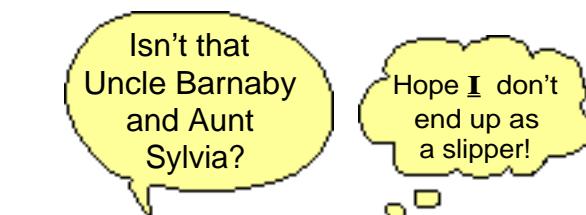
In June, LVARC's own Frank Unger (W3FTU) will retire from the Bethlehem Area School District after 32 years of teaching! Frank served the district as a teacher of the gifted at both the elementary and middle school levels.



Frank was first licensed in the early 70's, but let his license lapse. His interest peaked again and he earned his Technician in 2000 and upgraded to General and Extra early in 2003. He has been an active member of the LVARC as a VE, member of the Board of Governors and has recently undertaken heading the LVARC Auction.

We wish Frank good luck in his retirement and know he will spend more time devoted to amateur radio. By the way, he will now be able to wear those

**"Bunny Slipper"** on those cold snowy mornings while the rest of us are going to work!



**To have something published in the E-VOX,** send your favorite joke, radio related article, review of an item, diagram, etc. to Mark Miller (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) or US mail to 5508 Hale Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18017.



# **LVARC AUCTION**



**JUNE 7, 2005  
LVARC AUCTION AT THE  
RED CROSS - 6:30 pm**



Take this opportunity to clean out your shack, garage, workshop and basement of radio items and paraphernalia you no longer use or need. You will benefit and so will the LVARC. Proceeds will be split 50/50 between the seller and LVARC.

**Auction will begin promptly at 6:30  
prior to the June, 2005 meeting.**

**Tom Braun (K3ARI) of RCN  
will be the host and auctioneer!**

Please **contact Frank Unger (W3FTU)** for further information or if you wish to sell items at this event. Phone **(610) 691- 6731** or email at: **funger@enter.net**.



## Monday Night RACES/ARES Net Control Operators



June, 2005

June 6  
June 13  
June 20  
June 27

KB3GZV  
KB3GZW  
N0KIA  
N3MFT

Robin  
Dorian  
Paul  
Jeff



**REMEMBER: Registration for the monthly VE test session, must be made NO LATER THAN THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE TEST!**

Contact Mark (AK3M) at [AK3M@rcn.com](mailto:AK3M@rcn.com) or call 610-865-9183



*"An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language."*

--- Martin Buber



## LVARC June Activities!

**Mark Your Calendar**



- Tuesday June 7 -- LVARC **Auction** - 6:30 pm
- Tuesday June 7 -- LVARC **Business Meeting** - 7:30 pm
- Friday June 17 -- LVARC **Test Session** - 7:00 pm
- Saturday June 25 thru Sunday June 26 -- **FIELD DAY**

**District 2 EC Resigns - de Mark (AK3M)**

It is with deep regret that I submit notice of my resignation as DEC for District 2.

I have appreciated the opportunity to act in this position and do hate to resign but also feel that a fresh approach by someone new would make the DEC position more active and productive.

I will remain in this position until a replacement has been found and will assist in the location of a replacement. I plan to remain active in local emergency communications.

Sincerely,  
Mark S. Miller  
AK3M

**If you are interested in this position, contact  
Mark (AK3M) at: AK3M@rcn.com**

**A New Twist On An Old Controversy**

***"Hams were Hams, thanks to the media"***

- Q.** "Where'd amateur radio operators get the name "HAM" nickname?
- A.** From the initials of a magazine called, "**Home Amateur Mechanic.**" It devoted an entire issue to radio assembly in 1912.

----- from The Morning Call (date unknown)



**Don't Forget ..... to keep the LVARC  
"Back-Up" repeater in your radio's memory!**

The repeater is **147.735/147.135**  
with a PL of **167.9**.



**The MS 150 To Be  
Held In June**  
de Jeff (N3QZT)



NATIONAL  
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS  
SOCIETY

On the weekend of **June 11th & 12th 2005**, the MS 150-2005 bike tour will be held. This two-day event (with dinner, breakfast and lodging provided) is the largest public service event that the club participates in, and we can use everyone's help.

This year the bikers will be following a route that starts in Trexlertown at the Velodrome and end at Kutztown and then back the opposite direction the next day. So a lot of the early morning travel time is gone, and hopefully this will make it easier for you to participate in the event.

Your participation in the event can vary from a one day or two day assignment and can involve manning and ambulance and helping us keep in contact with them or riding on one of the sag busses (for the tired bike riders) to maintaining communications to any one of the rest stops along the route. Our job with the bike tour is to provide communications for safety and also for logistical support. Why not give it a try this year? We can sure use your help!!!

Let AA3WM or N3QZT now as soon as possible if you can help. Also please indicate what days you will be available (Saturday or Sunday) or if you plan on staying over night and participating both days.

We need your help to make this event work. So please help out.

**Jeffrey L. Keller  
n3qzt@ptd.net  
484 239-7142**



## Suggested Field Day Gear



### Amateur Radio

- HF radio
- AC Outlet strip(s)
- spare fuses
- power supply
- key (telegraph)
- headphones
- antenna(s)
- appropriate RF connectors
- tools
- HT
- spare batteries
- AC extension cord(s)
- antenna tuner



### General Supplies

- flashlight/lantern
- paper (pads)
- clock/watch
- pencils/pens
- AC desk lamp for night operation



### Personal Gear

- folding table/chair
- sleeping bag
- pillow
- sunglasses
- appropriate clothing
- snacks
- book/magazine
- personal toilet items
- cell phone
- eating utensils/cup
- tent
- duct tape
- bug spray
- cell phone





## **LVARC VE Report**

At the April 15, 2005 LVARC test session,  
one tested and one passed.

**CONGRATULATIONS to Sherwood Miltenberger (KB3JZQ) on  
passing his Extra exam!!!!**

TNX to VE's Rod (N3XG) and Frank (W3FTU)

### **LVARC VE Program**



## **ARRL Has Extensive Library**



The ARRL has CD's, books, DVD's and PowerPoint presentations available for sale and download. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/materials/videos.html> for a list.

## **Brain Teaser**

How can you throw a golf ball, as hard as you can, without hitting anything, have it come back to you?



Answer - page 17

*"Miracles: You do not have to look for them. They are there, 24/7, beaming like radio waves all around you. Put up the antenna, turn up the volume - snap... crackle... this just in, every person you talk to is a chance to change the world..."*  
" --- Hugh Elliott (Author of the Standing Room Only Weblog)



## Skywarn Training - de Larry (KB3JMS)

A Skywarn Training session was offered by Larry Nierenberg, a meteorologist from the National Weather Service office in Mount Holly, New Jersey. The class was held in the Lehigh Valley Hospital Center auditorium on Cedar Crest Boulevard on Sunday, April 17, 2005 at 4:30 pm. Approximately 70 of the 80 people scheduled for the class gave up a beautiful warm day to become Skywarn Spotters.



The session lasted over two hours and was well received by the audience. Guest appearances were made by Ed Hanna, Chief Meteorologist, and Leigh Brock, Morning Meteorologist, from WFMZ TV 69, and the AccuWeather Channel. My thanks to all who attended and helped make the class a success. A special thank you goes to Phil KB3HMK who made all the arrangements with the Lehigh Valley Hospital.



The LV Hospital auditorium (left)



Larry (KB3JMS) addressing the group. (right)



Larry from the NWS presented (left)



Ed Hanna from WFMZ TV was present (right)

Photos, courtesy of Phil (KB3HMK)



## Dinner at Friendly's Was a Big Success!

The LVARC dinner at Friendly's on April 19, 2005 proved to be very "Friendly." Approximately 25 LVARC members met at the Friendly's restaurant in Whitehall where they met in a private room for dinner. Unfortunately, the scheduled speaker, a PEMA official, had to cancel due to a PEMA activation related to recent flooding. **A big TNX goes to the LVARC Program Director, Phil (KB3HMK) for arranging the details.**



Photos, courtesy of Phil (KB3HMK)

**A good time was enjoyed by ALL!!**



## Brain Teaser (answer)

How can you throw a golf ball, as hard as you can, without hitting anything, have it come back to you?

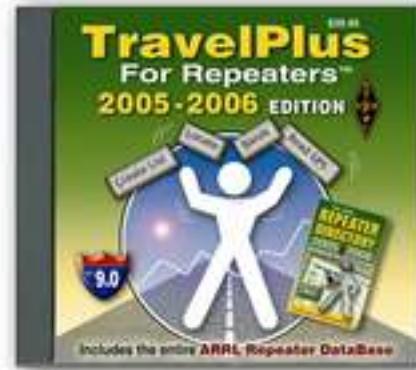
**Throw the ball straight up in he air!**



**TravelPlus for Repeaters  
CD-ROM with BONUS!  
2005/2006 Edition. Version 9.0**

**\$39.95**

<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9434>



**Free Ham  
Software**  
**From QST -- May, 2005**

**“BANDS”** software is instructive and interactive computer interface for Amateur Radio operators. Go to:

[www.columbia.edu/~wd16/Bands.htm](http://www.columbia.edu/~wd16/Bands.htm).

**“Ham Radio Reference”** (v. 3.0b) is a package of ham radio-related data and information for the Palm PDA, can be downloaded from [www.qsl.net/kb7avt/software.htm](http://www.qsl.net/kb7avt/software.htm). It includes antenna data, operating materials and basic electronics.



## ***LVARC Field Day, 2005 to be Held in Whitehall***



### **Directions to Field Day - de Rod (N3XG)**

Whitehall Parkway, Whitehall, PA

From the South (Allentown)

**Route 22 to Macarthur Road North (aka, route 145 and 7th St.)  
Proceed north past Wal-Mart and the Whitehall Family Restaurant.**

**Proceed to the second light past the Whitehall Family Restaurant and make a left onto S. Church Street. If you missed the S. Church St. you will pass Planet Trog and American Pool on the left and then you can make a left at Columbia St.**

**On S. Church St. you will pass Bon-Ton on the right a cell phone tower and Commerce Dr. also on the right, then a small warehouse on the right, next to that is the Whitehall Parkway on the right.**



### **N3XG Completes ARRL ARECC Level III**

The level three course focuses on managing and more specifically pre-planning for incidents. Where the level two course stops at local organization and only mentions regional events, the level three course provides wide area emergency communications response scenarios and includes organizations outside of the ARRL that provide similar services to different areas of the country. I recommend the courses to anyone that is even remotely interested in amateur radio. Remember the Amateur's Code includes Progressive and Patriotic, always ready for service.



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**Radio Amateurs, ARES Group among NOAA's 2005 "Environmental Heroes" - de Jeff (N3MFT)**

NEWINGTON, CT, April 28, 2005--The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has recognized four Amateur Radio operators and an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) group among its list of 2005 Environmental Heroes. Given in conjunction with Earth Day celebrations, Environmental Hero awards honor NOAA volunteers for their tireless efforts to preserve and protect the nation's environment.

"NOAA and the nation are fortunate to have such dedicated people volunteer so much of their time," said retired Navy Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher Jr, undersecretary of Commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "They set a perfect example for others to follow in their communities. America needs more environmental heroes like them."

ESTABLISHED in 1996, the Environmental Hero award is presented to individuals and organizations that volunteer their time and energy to help NOAA carry out its mission.

AMONG this year's honorees are Charles T. Byars, W5GPO, and the Wichita County Amateur Radio Emergency Service of Wichita Falls, Texas. Byars is an ARES District Emergency Coordinator in the ARRL North Texas Section. For more than 30 years, he and Wichita County ARES members have volunteered their time, expertise and resources to help the National Weather Service (NWS) detect and track dangerous storms.

"THEIR tireless efforts, long hours and dedication to helping to protect the citizens of Wichita Falls and the surrounding area have led to more accurate and detailed weather information being disseminated, more timely warnings and quite possibly lives being saved," NOAA said in recognizing Byars and his ARES team.

WICHITA County Emergency Coordinator Dave Gaines, N5DHG, says the City of Wichita Falls will host an awards presentation on May 10.

THREE Florida radio amateurs also were recognized for their efforts as Amateur Radio net control operators for the NWS office in Ruskin, Florida, during hurricanes Charley and Frances. NOAA says Paul Toth, NA4AR, of Seminole, Robert M. Stanhope, W3RMS, of Valrico and Sean C. Fleeman, N4SCF, of New Port Richey volunteered a total of 125 hours during the two storms last year.

"THEY gave up time with their families to gather real-time reports during the hurricanes to enhance NWS warnings and also provided up-to-the-minute weather information for recovery operations in west central and southwest Florida," NOAA said in commending the trio.

TOOTH is a Technical Specialist in the ARRL West Central Florida Section.

NOAA recognized 34 individuals and three organizations across the US as Environmental Heroes. The complete list of 2005 award recipients is on the NOAA Web site.



## VE EXTRA Report

de Mark (AK3M)

By special arrangement, Kevin Lundy (KC0TTY) tested before the May 3, 2005 meeting. He passed both the CW and General Written exam, upgrading to General Class.

**CONGRATULATIONS Kevin!!**

VE's in attendance, Frank (W3FTU) and Walt (KE3SP)

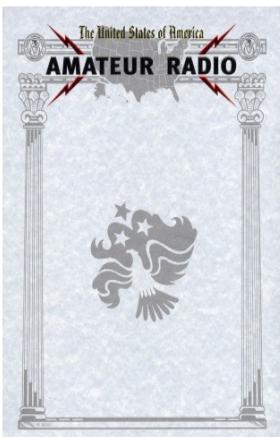


Interested in Old Radios? - Frank (W3FTU) offers the following.  
*Its worth the look!*

[www.radioblvd.com/hamgear.htm](http://www.radioblvd.com/hamgear.htm)



**Want a Nice Holder For Your Amateur Radio Station License?**



**Check out the following URL**

<http://fan--nanenterprises.com/>

**Only \$7.50**

