



**Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club Inc.**



**Serving the amateur radio community and Long Island for more than 43 years!**

**November 2008**

**Volume XLIII, No. 9**

**Next meeting to be held:  
Tuesday, November 12, 2008  
7:45 PM at Levittown Hall**

*AGENDA*

# **Nominations**

Important events to keep in your date book:

1. November general meeting is our Nominations night.
2. December meeting is our holiday party and our election of officers meeting
3. March meeting is our membership drive—pizza party night

Please note: this issue of the eLog has no photographs since I was not able to attend any of the meetings in October. I also will not be able to attend the Hamfair since I have to attend my father in laws unveiling in New Jersey during that time.. I hope to be at the meetings for November so that I can resume putting pictures into the eLog.

## President's Message November 2008

President's Message, November 2008

Every once in awhile, we hear a new voice on the repeater, and a comment that generally indicates that this is someone who has been inactive for a number of years, just pulled out the rig, and was remembering how much they had always enjoyed amateur radio. It is like riding a bike! You never forget!

Amateur radio, like few other hobbies, is an experience. In all modes of amateur radio, perfect strangers make contact with one another, share information, wish each other, and their families, good health and good will. With the increasing use of computers, particularly on HF, record keeping is easy, and makes it possible for a greeting to be "Nice to hear you again. We last spoke in January 2005" On the repeaters, where the group is more limited, so many people know the sound of a voice, or the call sign, and that recognition just makes people feel so much at ease.

In the world of HF, there are several awards available which indicate the extent to which an amateur has become involved. You can for example, work all states (WAS), work all continents (WAC), or work at least 100 entities (DXCC). There are avid radio operators all over the world, and religious, political, geographic and all other barriers, collapse under the onslaught of a radio operator seeking one of these recognitions.

The love of the hobby causes Arabs to communicate with Israelis, Taiwanese to communicate with Mainland Chinese, Americans to communicate with Cubans and Venezuelans, and men to communicate with women. Many of the issues that pull us apart become insignificant in the pursuit of this hobby. What a great lesson amateur radio could be for world leaders. Forget the nonsense and start communicating with one another. That means not only speaking but listening to what others have to say. A QSO is not complete unless you can record information given to you by the other party

Amateur radio is fun and rewarding, no matter what level of involvement you choose. It is not inappropriate at this time of year, to be thankful that we have the opportunity to participate in this wonderful hobby.

Happy Thanksgiving!

73

Richie, K2KNB

President, LIMARC

## ***Board Meeting Minutes***

**October 2, 2008** Levittown Hall

**OFFICERS:** K2KNB, Richie, President; Harry, KC2FYJ, Vice President; WB2ZEX, Jerry, Treasurer; W2OSR, Bob Secretary

**DIRECTORS:** WB2H, Harry; K2TGW, Les; N2RQ, Lew

**GUESTS:** WB2BEZ, Don; WB2HPI, George

### **Minutes of the October 2, 2008 LIMARC Board Meeting**

The meeting started at 7:30 PM.

**Motion:** Harry, KC2FYJ made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the log. There was a change to the minutes. *The call sign of Elliot our repeater landlord was incorrect. It should be KB2TZ. Eric, KE2EJ was left off the list of guests. WB2HPI, George's call sign was incorrect in the minutes.* The motion was reentered with the corrections. Les, K2TGW seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Opening remarks made by Richie, K2KNB, President. LIMARC members who make an extra effort to make the club grow were thanked. Rich, WA2NLL and Ray, W2RFR were singled out for their contributions. **The ARRL Luncheon** will be on November 8 in Paramus, New Jersey. Two of our members will be receiving awards. N2STU, Rich for his BPL work and WA2WKV, George is the Grand Old Ham. The club will take at least one table. The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7 at the Merrick Public Golf Course on Club House Road. Jim, W2KFB is in the hospital recovering from surgery. The elections committee is formed. Les, K2TGW having served 2 terms, can not run again. Ray, W2RFR; and Harry, WB2H can run for a second term. A discussion took place about term limits. Ed, K2EPM was appointed to complete the remainder of Lew, W2BIE's term which is over in December. Eddie, K2EPM can run for a one year term. The election will be for 3 board members for a two year term of office and 1 board member for a 1 year term. If Eddie decides to run again he will run for a 1 year term. If Eddie doesn't run, the can-

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*(Continued from page 3)* **Board Meeting Minutes**

didates will have to indicate how many years they are running for. LIMARC will be looking into new technologies. Digital modes that will be considered are D Star and Win Link 2000.

**Reports: Harry, KC2FYJ** – October we will have a presentation by ARES with Harris, NY3H standing in for Jim, W2KFV. November is the Nominations meeting. December we will have elections and the Holiday party.

**Jerry, WB2ZEX** our total assets are \$8604.03. There is \$4518.00 in the checking account and \$4086.00 in a savings account for the memorial funds.

**Bob, W2OSR** JOTA will take place on October 18 and 19.

**George, WB2HPI** reported that the ARES SET has been postponed. The Diabetes Walk will be on October 5 at Nassau Community College at 8:00AM.

**Richie, K2KNB** Presented the **Technical Committee Report** There was a problem with 850 machine that Eric, KE2EJ took care of. The 1.2 GHz repeater is being worked on.

**Don, WB2BEZ for Field Day** Don will be leaving as chairman of Field Day. There is a candidate to take over. He has set a condition on taking over. A storage site must be found for the field day equipment.

**Steve, KC2PLV, History** January 2010 will mark the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LIMARC. Please send any historic items you have to Steve.

**Hamfest** The Hamfest is on Sunday October 26. Fifty tables have been sold. Gene from KJI will be there. He has requested help with unloading and loading his truck. The VE session will be at 11:30 AM. The floor **must** be clear by 3 PM. There is another event scheduled for 5PM and staff needs time to sweep and mop the floor.

**Jerry, WB2ZEX** our membership is 355. Seven people have paid their dues for next year. There has been a donation of \$15.00 to our funds. Diane, K2DO is looking into an essay contest for the funds.

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**Lew, N2RQ, education** On October 15 part of the display at the Levittown Library will be moved to a different location at the Library. We may set up a demo station at Stuvvesant High School for School Club Round Up. School Club Round Up is the week of October 20.

**By- Law Committee Recommendations** were handed out. After a brief discussion it was decided to table the report until Eddie, K2EPM is available to discuss the recommended changes.

**Motion** Les, K2TGW made a motion to table the discussion. The motion was seconded by Lew, N2RQ. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Good and Welfare** Jay N2FP is in the hospital. He is at Winthrop in room 360. His phone number is 417-2601. Dave, KA2YRY is in the hospital. He is without health-care insurance. We will take up a collection at the General Meeting to help Dave.

**New Business** none

**Old Business** none

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Robert Batchelor, W2OSR

## Membership Report – November 2008

Please welcome the following new member:

Andy Arecco KB2DUY

By now, all 2008 LIMARC Members should have received either an email Dues Renewal Reminder, (if I have a valid email address) or a Dues Renewal Reminder letter. If you haven't already renewed your 2009 Membership dues, you can either mail a check to the club's PO Box, bring cash or a check to the LIMARC Hamfest or any Board or General Membership Meeting, or avoid all those hassles and send a PayPal payment to [LIMARC@optonline.net](mailto:LIMARC@optonline.net). The December eLOG/LOG will have an indicator listing when your membership expires.

Please send all updates to Jerry Abrams WB2ZEX at [membership@limarc.org](mailto:membership@limarc.org) (or [WB2ZEX@limarc.org](mailto:WB2ZEX@limarc.org)).

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## General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

~ 7:30 PM Levittown Hall

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### LIMARC October 7, 2008 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:45 PM

#### Attendance

**Guests:** W2QZ, Allen; N2ION, Jeff; K2RB, Rick; WA2CDL, Andy; WA2WKV, George; WB2OMW, Rob; WB2ZHB, Steve; W2ROB, Rob; KC2NKQ, Tom; KB2IEW, Ruane; W3EM, George; KG2ED, Rich; N2XKQ, Ken; N2YAV, Peter; K2GK, Gary; KB2QYK, David; N2RDB, Tim; WF2T, Mario; KC2CHA, Lorrie; WB2HPI, George; N2RLP, Karl; K2RRM, Rob; NY3H, Harris; KC2TPT, John

**Officers:** K2KNB, Richie, President; WB2ZEX, Jerry, Treasurer; Bob, W2OSR, Secretary

**Board Members:** Les, K2TGW; Lew, N2RQ, WB2KWC, Ken

**Richie, K2KNB, President, Opening Remarks:** Our repeaters are in good shape. On the Good and Welfare side, three of our members have been in the hospital. Jim, W2KFV is doing well and is expected to go home soon. Jay, N2FP is at Winthrop University Hospital. Dave, KA2YRY is at home after being in the hospital. Volunteers for the Bellmore Street Fair on October 25. Contact Rich WA2NLL. The **Ham-fest** is on October 26 at Levittown Hall. We will set up at 7:00 AM.

#### Reports:

**Harry, KC2FYJ, meetings:** Tonight will be an ARES presentation by Harris, NY2H. November is the nominations meeting. In December we will have the elections and holiday party.

**Jerry, WB2ZEX, Treasury:** There is \$4086.00 in the savings account for the memorial funds and \$5088.70 in the checking account. Our total is \$9174.00. LIMARC has 355 members. Twenty six members have paid their dues for 2009. Dues letters have been mailed / e-mailed.

**Bob, W2OSR, Scouting;** JOTA is on October 18 and 19. NARC will host JOTA on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

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**Richie, K2KNB;** The call sign of Elliot our repeater site landlord was misreported. It is KB2TZ. He is arranging for his riggers to install new hard line for the 146.850 repeater. Digital signal transmission seems to be the wave of the future. Richie, K2KNB urged us to do our homework on things like D Star. Narrow band FM uses 15 KHz of band width. Digital systems use 6 KHz.

**Andy, WA2CDL, Technical:** The repeaters are working. There are some questions about the 220 MHz repeater. The 440 MHz unit was on for 4 hours due to glitch. There is a hope that grants may be available for upgrading to digital systems for ARES.

**Al, W2QZ, VE sessions:** The next VE test will be at the Hamfest at 11 AM. Remember, if your license is up for renewal and you are an ARRL member, you can renew for free at a VE session.

**ARRL Luncheon:** The luncheon is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup>. Tables of 10 are available for \$45.00 per person. So far we will have at least one club table. George WA2WKV has been named Grand Old Ham. Rich, N2STU will receive an award for his BPL work. The Luncheon is in Paramus, NJ from 12 to 4.

**Lew, N2RQ, education:** Part of the display at the Levittown Library will be moved to a different location in the Library on October 15<sup>th</sup>. It will continue on display until October 27<sup>th</sup>. We are looking into scheduling a Technician class at the library. The School Club Round Up is October 20 – 24. Look on the League web site under ARRL/SCR for details. Rick, K2RB has been kind enough to print signs for us.

**Ed, K2EPM, By-Laws Committee** has proposed changes to the **By-Laws**. They involve the creation of a Public Safety Committee, term limits, and meeting notices. Note anyone can propose changes to the By-Laws.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The business part of the meeting ended at 8:25 PM.

At 8:40 PM Harris, NY3H talked about what has happened in ARES.

Respectfully submitted: Robert Batchelor, W2OSR

## Election Notice

Elections will be held at the December meeting for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three Director positions, and one Director position to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of Lew, W2BIE.

Nomination forms are available on our website, and should be submitted to Seth, KB2TWO, prior to the November board meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>. After that date, nominations must be made from the floor and seconded, at the general meeting on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Nominations are closed at the end of the November meeting.

Please check the Elections Committee page on our website for requirements.

**Dear fellow LIMARC Members, I would like to thank Richie, K2KNB and the LIMARC leadership for allowing me to address the membership at last months meeting. For those who were not in attendance, here is a brief SKYWARN recap:**

In late May, Jim, W2KFV, ARES District Emergency Coordinator announced a change in SKYWARN leadership here in Nassau County. Alex, N2XOJ, stepped down after many years of faithful, reliable and dedicated service. Humbly, I accepted the SKYWARN Coordinator's position. A few weeks later, I named Bruce, K2BRG, as my Deputy Coordinator. By mid-July we proudly launched "Nassau County's first-"WXSKEYPAGE" (<http://www.nassauskywarn.net/>) A website dedicated to our efforts as spotters, conveying items of local and national importance, weather links and learning tools for all. It also features local/national weather conditions including watch and warning information that are of prime importance, as well as our local activation notices. Other features include, a Spotter's photo page for weather related photos and a roster of stations checking in during watches, warnings and weekly nets. And, speaking of nets, Nassau County SKYWARN convenes a weekly net on the 146.805 repeater every Sunday evening following the NTS Net at 7:45PM (1945 Hrs) local.

This spring, SKYWARN activities increased dramatically with numerous severe weather events impacting Nassau County. Starting with microburst and hail that hit the Bethpage area back in May, severe weather events continued throughout the summer months. Tornado warnings, rare here, became more commonplace. This all underscored the reality "weather is changing here on Long Island," and in a more severe way. Wind and rain events have changed to cloud to ground lightning, hail, torrential downpours, strong wind gust fronts, funnel clouds, waterspouts and cloud rotation. Calls into NWS (National Weather Service) were few in the past, have unfortunately been more common of late. And, we all know we are long overdue for a major hurricane. The experts are not saying "if" they are saying "when!" Being prepared for action is critically important because we can help!

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This is what our SKYWARN program is all about. NWS, with their Doppler radar and satellite information, have only part of the total picture of what is going on locally. They need “eyes on the ground” to further enhance their total picture. That is the role that we, as spotters, can play. Spotter participation may offer that critical observation needed by the meteorologists at Upton (home of our local NWS facility) that may help in confirming their forecasting model, allowing them time to spread the word by issuing warnings to the people who need to know. That word will come from you as a spotter, relaying real time, actual ground observations. You can make a difference in a successful SKYWARN program and possibly being part of the warning system that gets the word out to our community.

Some of you have already taken SKYWARN training; many others need a refresher, yet others have no training at all. I hope in the months to come, all will have the opportunity to complete a SKYWARN training course, either at the spotter or advanced level. That is a priority of mine and will be fully discussed at our next regional NWS meetings. In the meantime, we can train just by participating in our weekly nets. By checking in, you will get to hear and experience the traffic passed on nets convened during severe weather events. Training is critical in all emergency operations. Without it, the information we gather will not truly help the National Weather Service, the Agency we serve, or your community, where you and your families live. Additionally, training opportunities are developed through community service work that we do as members of Nassau County ARES throughout the year. Without formal training, we will never truly understand the mission nor the purpose of our SKYWARN program and the service we can provide to NWS and Nassau County.

In the spirit of Amateur Radio and our desire to learn, experiment and experience, ARES has become an active operation in providing training in areas of digital communication modes. Starting with a handful of APRS stations, the County can now boast of dozens of fixed, fixed weather and mobile APRS stations that can be adapted into an active SKYWARN program. Winlink2000, another digital mode, can be integrated into SKYWARN and emergency operations, as it has been “battle proven,” relaying critical information that last mile when all other means have failed. Finally, D-Star is up and running experimentally with six ARES/SKYWARN operators developing protocol criteria for this robust mode. During Tropical Storm Hanna’s visit to New York, Jim, W2KFB was in continuous communication with me via D-Star while he was vacationing in Florida. Digital is the way of the future for emergency communications and I am happy to report the partnership of Nassau

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### All Nassau A.R.E.S. members

**New Meeting Date!!!**

**New Location!!!**

The next meeting of Nassau County A.R.E.S. will be on the fourth Thursday of the month. All are welcome to attend! Regularly scheduled meetings of Nassau County A.R.E.S. are held at the **Special Activities Center in Eisenhower Park, Field #8**. This is the white building on your right as you enter the park from the Merrick Ave. /Stewart Ave. side.

**Please attend if you can!!!**

## VE Testing Schedule for 2008

LIMARC VE Test Sessions are held on the second Saturday of every odd numbered month at the Levittown Hall, Levittown Parkway, Hicksville, NY. Please remember to bring **two** pieces of identification (one with a photo), your **original** license **and** a copy of it, any **original Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE's)** **and** copies of them. *Also remember to bring the proper fee in check made out to ARRL VEC or exact change (NOTE: the 2008 fee has been set at \$14.00).* The LIMARC VE Team will supply the FCC Form 605. For further information, contact Al **W2QZ** at (516) 623-6449.

For reference, here is the testing schedule for the remainder of the year 2008:

Nov. /8 1PM

## LIMARC Repeater Nets

**(W2VL 146.850, unless otherwise noted)**

Monday (Two Nets): Info Net, 8:30 PM – Lew **N2RQ**, 2nd week Bob **WB2OMW** 3rd week Diane **K2DO**, 4th week Harry **KC2FYJ**; 5th week Rick **K2RB** 8:45PM Swap – n – Shop Net, – Bill **WB2CUK**, Net Control

3rd and 4th Wednesdays: Computer Net 8:30 PM —Ken **WB2KWC**

Sunday: Tech Net, 8:00 PM – Dick **K2RIW**, Net Control

LIMARC Repeaters: **W2VL** 146.850; **W2KPQ** 147.375;

**W2KPQ** 224.820; **W2KPQ** 449.125; **W2VL** 1288.000

*All repeaters use a 136.5 PL—the 147.375 machine has IRLP node 4478*

## 2008 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at: Levittown Hall  
201 Levittown Parkway  
Hicksville, NY

Directions: Wantagh Parkway to exit W2 East (Old Country Road)  
Go east approximately 1/2 mile to Levittown Parkway  
Turn right on Levittown Parkway  
Go south approximately 1/4 mile to Levittown Hall on your left  
Park in the lot or go around back. There are entrances on both sides of the building.

**Generally, all meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month.** The specific meeting dates for the rest of the year are listed below:

General Wednesday November 12th , December 10 at Levittown Hall

**Board meetings: , All board meetings will be at Levittown Hall until further notice** and will begin at 7:30  
November 5th, December 3rd Wednesday

LI - March



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County ARES and SKYWARN has allowed for its rapid development and implementation here in Nassau. We have encouraged our members to expand their use and base of knowledge, so we can all help in developing a stronger communications backbone for Nassau County.

As we hear, see and view weather events at home or throughout the country, the more it becomes apparent for trained "eyes on the ground." I invite you to become more active than ever before as the needs of spotter information for NWS and Nassau County becomes more critical than ever. Join us on Sunday nights, check out our website, join ARES and practice community service...at the end of the day you will know that your active participation may someday offer our community, critical help. Little can be more rewarding or gratifying than to help others.

If you have any questions or would like help in learning about or participating in either Nassau County SKYWARN and/or ARES, please feel free to contact me after our net, drop down to an ARES meeting or email me at [ny3h@arrl.net](mailto:ny3h@arrl.net). I look forward to chatting about our efforts here in Nassau County but most of all, I look forward to your participation in helping OUR community. We cannot do it alone...We need your help to reach the goal of having a trained, organized and dedicated volunteer group of responders that can make the difference in times of need.

Best 73 and safe spotting,

Harris NY3H

Nassau County SKYWARN Coordinator and  
 ARES Emergency Coordinator Town of Oyster Bay

<b>LIMARC Officers</b>				<b>Directors</b>		
<b>President</b>	Richard Cetron	K2KNB	(516) 694-4937	Ed Muro	K2EPM	(631)932-0172
<b>Vice-President</b>	Harry Gross	KC2FYJ	(516) 248-6455	HarrySchrader	WB2H	(631) 584-5594
<b>Secretary</b>	Robert Batchelor	W2OSR	(516) 671-4083	Ray Taruskin	W2RFR	(718) 634-7359
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jerry Abrams	WB2ZEX	(718) 531-7795	Les Ostrick	K2TGW	(516) 295-0696
<b>Past President</b>	Rick Bressler	K2RB	(516) 526-6975	Lew Malchick	N2RQ	<a href="mailto:n2rq@arrl.net">n2rq@arrl.net</a>
				Ken Gunther	WB2KWC	(631) 531-1152

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