



THE LED

July 2011

Published by the Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell, Michigan

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
PO Box 283
Howell, Michigan 48844

www.W8LRK.org

NET 146.680
SUNDAY 9PM

CLUB CALL IS: W8LRK

NEXT KLUB MEETING
Thursday, July 14th, at 7:30PM
EOC, 300 S. Highlander Way
Howell, MI



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Jim	WB8AZP
Vice-President	Van	N8GVD
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Patrick	W8LNO
Program Manager	Jon	KC8VAB
Tech Director	Les	W8MSP
Director	John	KD8CCR

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

Repeater Trustee	Jim	WB8AZP
LED Editor	Michelle	KD8GWX
VE Coordinador	Jim	WB8AZP
PIO Officer	Brandon	KC8YHE
PIO Officer	Jim	N8ENX
Web Site	Jim	KB8QFN

The Livingston Amateur Radio Klub maintains the 146.680 (Negative Offset, 162.2 CTCSS) and also the 444.525 (Positive Offset, 100.0 CTCSS) repeaters in Livingston County.

Jim's Jive

I think summer has finally settled into Michigan. We now have those hot muggy days to complain about, with thoughts of cold wintery weather completely gone from our heads. I hope all of you and your families had a safe and enjoyable July 4th holiday.

Field Day 2011 is just a memory, but a fond one for those who participated in the LARK event held in conjunction with the Howell Balloonfest. Make plans to join us next year for this great opportunity to attract new members to the amateur radio hobby. We know we got the attention of several scanner enthusiasts, as they attempted to gain access to the event without following proper protocol.

Be sure and remind your friends of the LARK Radio Raffle. We'll draw the winning tickets at the September 2011 meeting. This year, we're giving away 10 Wouxun Dual Band Handheld Transceivers! There are only 100 tickets, and they cost \$20 each. Les, W8MSP, has volunteered to program the winning radios with his useful collection of SE Michigan repeater frequencies.

Jon, KC8VAB, is always interested in what you'd like in the way of programs at the meetings. Make sure you chat with him at the next meeting.

Zac, KC8YHU, is still holding our weekly net at 8:30PM most Sunday evenings. Make a note to drop in.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so be sure to remember to start your Saturday out by attending the LARK breakfast, on the first and third Saturday of most every month, at the Grand River Grill, near Woodland Medical.

To keep the organization fiscally healthy for years to come, your executive board is exploring the notion of a dues increase. A quick scan of other clubs in the state shows that for the free services and benefits we offer our members, we are woefully behind on what we charge members. Of course, we're interested in your thoughts.

Looking forward to seeing you all at an upcoming breakfast or meeting.

73



Jim WB8AZP

Thought for the day ...

“Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm ... As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

- Audrey Hepburn

Finance Report

No Financial Report submitted at this time for the July LED Newsletter.

LARK General (6-9-2011) & Board (6-16-2011) Meeting Minutes

No minutes submitted at this time for the July LED Newsletter.

A little bit about MARS By Mark Sharef WQ8S / AAV5QK

It seems that MARS must be the best kept secret in Amateur Radio. Most amateurs must think were like the Masons or Skull&Bones. Sometimes I wish we were, then perhaps it would be easier to recruit new people. Just think we could have passwords and secret handshakes.

For those who don't know ,MARS stands for “ Military Auxiliary Radio Systems” and has been around since 1925. In all those years our basic mission has been the same. To provide communications in time of emergencies , as does RACIES AND ARIES. What's different about us is we work with the Military on their frequencies and using their procedures. This is what we train for.

When I pass traffic, I can be on frequencies far removed from the amateur bands and might be talking to an Army or National Guard station. These stations could be just a few miles or halfway across the country. I could be operating at home or portable just about anywhere .

A little bit about MARS (continued)

With this in mind we are looking of Amateurs who have a General class or higher license and are at least 18 years of age. The reason for this is we found it was often necessary to go back and forth between the HF Amateur and Military frequencies . The 18 year age limit is for those who are willing to deploy in times of emergency.

Just like Volunteer Firemen, we train to be as professional as possible. MARS operators commit to a minimum of 12 hours per quarter, but most of us do more then that. Like Races and Areas we have to take and pass the FEMA training for NIMS ICS -100, 200, 700 & 800.

MARS nets are very structured. We are, after all a Military organization . The Army has been moving traffic by radio and telegraphy since the Civil War and has found many things that work and don't work.

New things are always being tried. When it's truly found to be better changes are made and passed on to everyone in the system.

A good example is " WinMor " . Pactor is being used with great success , but the cost was slowing down everyone from using it. Experiments with WinMor showed it would work about as well as Pactor II and could be loaded into any computer operating with XP or newer operating system at 1Ghz or faster speed. Having a sound card mode that worked that well proved quite cost effective.

When you join MARS your not left own your . Several mentors are available to help you with different aspects of your training and getting your station up and running on MARS frequencies.

If this sounds like something you could commit yourself to, you can contact me at [www.msharef@peopolepc.com](mailto:msharef@peopolepc.com) or you can go to www.michaganarmymars.com .

When you finish your training I'll take you aside and show you the secret handshake.

Way to go Kathy!!!!

**Kathy Beecham, Jim's wife, took her Tech test at the LARK monthly session LAST NIGHT!
She has her CALLSIGN ALREADY!!!!!!**

Wireless Frontier

“By the early 20th century, the notion of the "self-made man" had hit a wobbly spot in the American psyche. The frontier had supposedly closed in 1890. More and more Americans worked for corporations. Where could red blooded guys show their individualistic prowess in this modern day and age?

Newspapers thought they found in the answer in Walter Willenborg, an amateur wireless maven operating out of Hoboken, New Jersey. "New wonders with wireless—and by a boy!" ran a [1907 feature](#) on the enthusiast. Willenborg amazed reporters with his ability to pick up Morse code signals as far away as Clifden, Ireland. They trekked to his experimental lab and marveled at the results. ...”

For the entire text of this article worth reading, please go to the following link:

http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2011/07/did-the-titanic-disaster-let-uncle-sam-take-over-the-airwaves.ars?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=rss

July 1, 2011

This day was a special day in ham radio history, the 60th anniversary of the Novice license.

This is the license most of us who were licensed before 1991 started off with. Starting in 2000, no more new licenses were issued; though holders could renew.

July 1, 1951 is when its started. That was a Sunday. The next day was when the first novice exams were given, at FCC offices. It took about 3 weeks for those licenses to arrive. At first the Novice sub-band on 80M didn't have too many people on it.

If you are interested in reading more please read my column on Novice history in QCWA Journal or to be part of the history share your novice story or post your picture on the Novice Historical Society's website (<http://www.novicehistory.org/>)

North American Electric Reliability Corporation

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) will be conducting a power grid field test allowing the 60hz frequency of the grid to fluctuate. No data on the amount of frequency fluctuation they're talking about but it will impact the accuracy of at least 2 models of the tube clocks (www.tubeclock.com) manufactured.

NERC suggests there will be no significant commercial impacts. But what other impact this could have on the ham community. If you have any technical concerns you can send them by email to tec@nerc.com.

The 60hz field test is being conducted **between 7/15 and 9/15 this summer**. Here's the NERC webinar that AP based their story on: http://www.nerc.com/files/NERC_TEC_Field_Trial_Webinar_061411.pdf

Humor for the day ...

Ford v. Computers:

At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If Ford had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, Ford issued a press release stating:

If Ford had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash.....Twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single 'This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation' warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask 'Are you sure?' before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
10. You'd have to press the 'Start' button to turn the engine off.

And when all else fails - you could call 'customer service' in some foreign country and be instructed in some foreign language how to fix your car yourself!!!!

Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, michelle.Roderick@wc-redcross.org
734-717-5660 Cell 734-260-7893 ARC Cell 734-712-0133 FAX

Please bring any articles you'd like to have in the next meeting. If you are unable to attend, have a friend bring the information to the meeting for you, email it to me at the above address or feel free to fax it to my work at the above number.

Thanks to everyone for the articles submitted to make the LED a success.

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
3	4 Happy Independence Day!!	5 VE Testing 7 pm Howell EOC	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 LARK Meeting 7:30 pm Howell EOC "UN Picnic"	15	16 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
17	18	19	20	21 LARK Board Mtg 7:00 pm Teleconference	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
7	8	9 VE Testing 7 pm Howell EOC	10	11 LARK Meeting 7:30 pm Howell EOC	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 LARK Board Mtg 7:00 pm Teleconference	19	20 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		September Meeting Raffle Drawing Sell those tickets!	