



THE LED

November 2014

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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, November 13th, at 7:30PM
EOC, 300 S. Highlander Way
Howell, MI



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Jim	K8JK
Vice-President	Van	N8GVD
Secretary	Karen	KB8AKC
Treasurer	Patrick	W8LNO
Program Manager	Bob	K8VQC
Tech Director	Les	W8MSP
Director	John	KD8CCR

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

Repeater Trustee	Jim	K8JK
LED Editor	Michelle	KD8GWX
VE Coordinador	Jim	K8JK
PIO Officer		
PIO Officer		
Web Site	Les	W8MSP

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

“Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is a Mystery, Today is a Gift, that’s why it’s called The Present” (generally contributed to Eleanor Roosevelt, but in part traced back to many contributors).

I truly believe that every day is a real treasure and a gift, no matter what happens. The amateur radio hobby is clearly a part of that gift. We are involved in a hobby that has made, and will continue to make, new strides in technology – and we all get to participate – how cool is that? Make sure you take full advantage of every “today” you have. Our little group has access to some great “human assets” (business lingo for talented people), and make sure you take full advantage of them!

Jury Duty

In all of the years that I have voted, I have never been called to potentially serve on a jury – until now. The whole experience was fascinating, and the case that was being tried before us was just a little sad – it involved alleged child abuse of an 11 week old infant. I met some great people sitting in a jury room for 28 hours deliberating on what had been presented to us by both the prosecution and the defense, and while I stand in amazement as to the circumstances that brought us all together, I can’t help feel that we collectively probably helped save a little life! What an awesome thing!

Klub Repeaters

Les, W8MSP, and the other “techno geeks”, are trying to put together a very cool migration plan for the Klub repeaters on 146.68 and 444.525. He is hopeful this will result in a more reliable system during the winter months (and I’m hopeful that there will be less opportunity for me to travel out to the site). More details at the next Klub meeting.

VE Testing

To my knowledge, LARK is the only organization in all of Michigan that still continues to offer FREE amateur radio exam sessions. If you know of potential new amateurs, send them our way. If you’re looking to upgrade, we’re only too happy to offer you the test. Tell your friends, enemies, mail carrier, heck, everybody! My personal thanks to all the VE examiners who make this happen!

Projects

We’ve been shooting for a goal of offering at least one construction project per year related to amateur radio. I think it’s a pretty good target to shoot for, but we can always use your input. Because we’re all volunteers, the project development and planning cycle takes just a bit longer than what most project teams’ encounter in the real world. If you have any ideas, please share them. Thanks in advance!

Jim's Jive (continued) ...

Radio Raffle

We took a brief hiatus from the world famous LARK Radio Raffle this past year. This had been a great fund raiser for the Klub. What is your opinion? Should we bother to launch a 2015 Radio Raffle? If so, what should we give away? Your comments will be very useful!

Programs

We have always been blessed with interesting programs and events, and our program directors have always strived for an interesting balance. They can always use your inputs to assist them in planning meaningful events for our Klub meetings. I would much rather spend our monthly meeting listening to interesting topics than some of the other things that we do. Help us help keep those meetings interesting. What do you want to hear about? What might you want to contribute? At our November meeting, we're going to hear from Don, KD8NNU about killer competitive mobile HF installations. Your topic doesn't have to be nearly as detailed. It might be just a discussion of that new antenna you built, or what you discovered while trying to fix an older power supply. Remember, today is a "gift", and your participation is part of the "present".

Emergency Preparedness

Although we don't want to think about it, emergency preparedness is something we signed up for when we accepted an amateur radio license. In a wide spread emergency, amateurs may be called in to assist local agencies in any number of ways. If we are not prepared ourselves, we can be of little value to anyone else. Do you have a family emergency plan? Are you equipped with alternate power sources, food and water? Do you know what to do in the event of a large scale emergency? I'm just asking, it's up to each of us to answer that question.

The Amateur Radio Relay League

The ARRL has been celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Amateur Radio has held an interesting position in the shaping of many technologies that we all enjoy today. Supporting the ARRL with your membership is not only good for you, but also for the future of amateur radio and the explosive growth of technology. While I don't always agree with everything that the ARRL does or advises, I am still a member, and support the only organization who is dedicated for supporting our hobby. If you are not a member, consider joining.

Silent Key Estates

The official policy for supporting the liquidation of silent key estates hasn't changed much since I have been involved in LARK. On behalf of the family members, LARK will assist in the gathering and selling of amateur radio related gear for its members, and the only charges will be our own expenses, (flea market tables, fuel to go to events, auction fees for online selling, etc.). Sometimes we receive donations from the families for our efforts, on behalf of the silent key, and sometimes not. We never charge a fee for this effort. I am grateful that many Klub members volunteer to assist in this effort.

Jim's Jive (continued) ...

Great Lakes Division Director Speaks At LARK Meeting!

I am excited that our Great Lakes Division Director, Dale Williams, WA8EFK, has agreed to present at our December 2014 meeting. I have known Dale for many years, and I'm sure you'll find his discussions and insight to be very valuable. We wanted this meeting to be the best that we could make it, so we are opening up the December meeting to EVERY amateur radio operator in and around Livingston County! Tell your friends, relatives, neighbors, any and everyone else you can think of. This is an excellent opportunity to chat with an important ARRL representative. To accommodate a larger crowd in a more comfortable setting, John Waters KD8CCR has made available to LARK his EMS training facility. For the December meeting, we will gather at:

Livingston County EMS
1911 Tooley Road
Howell, MI 48843

Please invite everyone to come and visit with us, and our ARRL Great Lakes Director! A special thanks to our program director, Bob, K8VQC and John, KD8CCR, for their efforts.

LARK Breakfast

Hey, why haven't you been to the LARK breakfast? We get together most every Saturday morning for breakfast and plenty of good conversation. These days you'll find us at Americus Grill in Brighton around 8 AM. On the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, some lucky LARK member gets to eat for free! Who doesn't enjoy a free meal?

Other Thoughts

Can't get on the air because you're having equipment issues or your antenna fell down? We no longer have a subscription to the Physic Friends Network, so there is no possible way we'll know about this, and your need for assistance, without you telling us. We have many members who want to assist, and that's a good thing! Remember, today is a "gift" – use it wisely, but use it!

73, Jim K8JK



LARK General (10-9-2014) Meeting Minutes

Members and guests present: Jim Kvochick K8JK, Les Butler W8MSP, Karen Butler KB8AKC, Bruce Van Dam N8GVD, Bob Hitchens K8VQC, Reece Albright KD8WVL, Jon Harris KC8VAB, Shannon Harris KD8BVT, Chris Hammond KD8WPY, Dave Marble KD8UCF, Ralph McChristy N8RBA, Charlie McChristy KB8OVJ, ISSAC McChristy, Michelle Roderick KD8GWX, Nolan Rollo N8ncr, Tom Rozek Ab8XU, W8CO George Vercuic, Katie Wick KD8YEQ, Don Wirt KD8GOU, John Wiry KD8SWT, William Brezina Wa8HEA, Chip Peterson KD8WQM, Jerry Long N8AB, Jerry Long N8AB, John Faurer KD8WQG, Phil Mantan N8NSA

After reciting the pledge of allegiance the president called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Secretary's report: no report we opened and closed the meeting to facilitate working our project for the month.

Treasurer's report: is printed in this months LED.

Program director: we have items from the estate of KD8DAV to liquidate at various swaps 15 & 16 of November in Ft Wayne should be the first one.

AREA RACES CERT: no report

Tour D Livingston is the weekend CERT members will be assisting with traffic control meet at Mt Brighton in the parking lot

October 25th is Legend of Sleepy Howell CERT members will be assisting with this event.

The simulated emergency test was last week.

Technical director: we are still working on a couple quotes for the 146.68 repeater there is a backup repeater at the site if need be.

dstar: still trying to figure out the problem with the internet

Newsletter: HAMFEST next Weekend in Kalamazoo, USECA October 26. articles are always welcome for the newsletter please submit to Michelle.

Reminder we meet for breakfast every Saturday at Americus Grill 9836 E Grand river avenue.

We had a tech take his General test this evening and passed Congratulations to Phill N8NSA.

There being no further business Ralph McChristy N8RBA moved to adjourn seconded by Charlie McChristy so moved 8:49 p.m.

50/50 raffle total was \$88 and the lucky winner was Charlie McChristy KB8OVJ

Respectfully submitted by Karen Butler KB8AKS, Recording Secretary

LARK Board (10-16-2014) Meeting Minutes

No Board minutes not included with LED at this time.

Finance Report

No Finance Report included with LED at this time.

2014 Field Day ...

I am pleased to announce the results of the 2014 ARRL Field Day. This year, we operated 3F, a category for EOC stations.

W8LRK (and GOTA station N8EOC) made 913 QSO's with 18 Participants, scoring 3,804 points.

W8LRK was NUMBER 1 in the Great Lakes Division, and NUMBER 9 across the ENTIRE CONTEST, in their class!!!

We were 406 out of 2686 participants across ALL CLASSES of operations

(Not too bad!!!)

Great Job by our fun little group!!!

Message to US Educators

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Contact Opportunity

Call for Proposals

Proposal Window October 17 – December 15, 2014

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contact would be held between **May 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015**. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.

The deadline to submit a proposal is December 15, 2014. Proposal information and documents can be found at www.arrl.org/hosting-an-ariss-contact.

The Opportunity

Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled Amateur Radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students and educators to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

An ARISS contact is a voice-only communication opportunity via Amateur Radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in contact dates and times.

Amateur Radio organizations around the world, NASA, and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe sponsor this educational opportunity by providing the equipment and operational support to enable direct communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world via Amateur Radio. In the US, the program is managed by AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) and ARRL (American Radio Relay League) in partnership with NASA.

More Information

Interested parties can find more information about the program at www.ariss.org and www.arrl.org/ARISS.

For proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and proposal form, and dates and times of Information Sessions go to <http://www.arrl.org/hosting-an-ariss-contact>. Please direct any questions to ariss@arrl.org.

4M Lunar Flyby Spacecraft Amateur Radio Payload Now in Silent Earth Orbit

The Amateur Radio payload in the Manfred Memorial Moon Mission (4M) [lunar flyby experiment](#) has gone silent, but the spacecraft itself will likely be in Earth orbit for some time to come.

“It is there for some thousands years, I think, but it might also be ejected in heliocentric orbit if it passes close to the Moon, which is what some simulations show,” said Ghislain Ruy, LX2RG, of Luxspace (LSE), the private company behind the 4M payload. Ruy said the 4M is orbiting Earth every 16.5 days.

Ruy told ARRL that the 4M’s Amateur Radio payload exhausted its batteries on November 10 after 438 hours of service — four times more than Luxspace engineers had predicted. “It can be considered a huge success that opened new paths and made people think or even dream,” he said.

On November 10 the battery voltage began dropping, and Rein Smit, W6SZ, in California, received the last signal at 0135 UT on November 11, when the battery voltage had fallen to 8.4 V.

“Here at Luxspace, we have to thank you all for the reports, for the tracking, and we also hope that we provided you with the challenges you expected,” Ruy posted to the [Moon-Net](#) list. “4M may possibly awaken from time to time if illumination becomes better. We shall now endeavor to prepare the next one.”

The Chinese Chang’e 5T-1 lunar mission payload that the 4M initially accompanied into space on a Long March 3C rocket already has been recovered. The 4M and Chang’e 5T-1 — part of the China Lunar Exploration Program — launched into space on October 23, with the 4M payload hitchhiking on the launch vehicle’s third stage.

Until early this week the Amateur Radio payload was transmitting a *WSJT JT65B* beacon and telemetry on 145.980 MHz, and it was only by chance that the 4M managed to attain Earth orbit on the return leg, rather than burn up in the atmosphere — which had been its more likely fate.

California Scientist-Ham On the Air from Antarctica's McMurdo Station, Ross Ice Shelf

Ham radio is not the primary reason Ron Flick, K6REF, is in Antarctica, but it's proving to be an enjoyable diversion to his scientific activities at McMurdo Station and the Ross Ice Shelf. He's put a few hundred contacts in the log since arriving late last month from California. Flick, an oceanographer with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways, and colleagues are conducting ice [vibration studies](#) on the Ross Ice Shelf for Scripps Institution of Oceanography. McMurdo is home to KC4USV, but Flick's initial experience at the station — once he was able to locate the key to unlock the door — was less than optimal.

"The view is spectacular!" he enthused. "After I plugged the radio into power and the Yagi, I was able to hear a few stations on the lower end of 20, but was not able to contact anyone. The Yagi is fixed in an east-west orientation."

Flick subsequently learned that the Antarctic winds had shifted the Yagi's orientation. He'd been using 14.243 MHz — the "usual" KC4USV frequency — and 14.290 MHz, which he called "my personal favorite." He was also using 21.260 MHz, generally getting on the air around 2200 UTC for a few hours, depending upon his work schedule. "[C]onditions here are rough for old men like me," he said, "and the training and equipment assembly for our project is a big job."

According to the Scripps Institution, Amateur Radio operations are part of the outreach and education efforts of the "Dynamic Response of the Ross Ice Shelf to Wave-Induced Vibrations" expedition.

Starting this week, Flick will be on the air from Yesterday Camp near the International Date Line, running 100 W to dipole antennas, as time and conditions permit. He hopes to be on the air for a few hours during the Antarctic afternoon and evening, starting at about 0300 UTC. A member of the Star of India Amateur Radio Club at the San Diego Maritime Museum, Flick reported that upon his arrival October 31, he was greeted with a "balmy 14° F" temperature, as summer weather approaches the South Pole.

Some computer-related wiring was underway in the ham shack this week, which, Flick said, was a good thing, since it will provide Internet service to the KC4USV operators. The downside was the work inhibited his ability to get on the air. "Antarctica is full of rules and procedures, by and large designed to keep everybody safe and warm, or at least alive," he quipped.

He had been planning to be on the air as much as possible before heading out onto the ice on November 11, and he is hoping to maintain "a similar routine" from the Ross Ice Shelf while camped out there until December 5, sans Internet, and operating as KC4/K6REF. "But we will have satellite phones, so I can call Bob, KK4KT, and he can forward alerts," he said.

Flick anticipates "primitive" conditions at Yesterday Camp. "I would greatly appreciate it if you can act as relays to make phone contact with my wife, Myra, and other expedition team members to pass on how we are doing while we are on the ice shelf," he implored the Amateur Radio community. "As far as we know, no humans have ever been where we're going to be camped!"

The US Antarctic Program has a [webcam](#) at McMurdo Station. — *Thanks to Joe Garza, AB6RM*

Humor for the day ...

I never knew

A SHOT OF WHISKEY

In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

THE WHOLE NINE YARDS

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

BUYING THE FARM

This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

IRON CLAD CONTRACT

This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.

PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".

RIFF RAFF

The Mississippi River was the main way of traveling from north to south. Riverboats carried passengers and freight but they were expensive so most people used rafts. Everything had the right of way over rafts which were considered cheap. The steering oar on the rafts was called a "riff" and this transposed into riff-raff, meaning low class.

COBWEB

The Old English word for "spider" was "cob".

SHIP STATE ROOMS

Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day cabins on ships are called staterooms.

SLEEP TIGHT

Early beds were made with a wooden frame. Ropes were tied across the frame in a criss-cross pattern. A straw mattress was then put on top of the ropes. Over time the ropes stretched, causing the bed to sag. The owner would then tighten the ropes to get a better night's sleep.

SHOWBOAT

These were floating theaters built on a barge that was pushed by a steamboat. These played small town along the Mississippi River. Unlike the boat shown in the movie "Showboat" these did not have an engine. They were gaudy and attention grabbing which is why we say someone who is being the life of the party is "showboating".

Humor for the day ...

OVER A BARREL

In the days before CPR a drowning victim would be placed face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in a effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

BARGE IN

Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they "barged in".

HOGWASH

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "hog wash".

CURFEW

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire". It was used to describe the time of blowing but all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu", which later became the modern "curfew". In the early American colonies homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called-a "curfew".

BARRELS OF OIL

When the first oil wells were drilled they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

As the paper goes through the rotary printing press friction causes it to heat up. Therefore, if you grab the paper right off the press it's hot. The expression means to get immediate information.

Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, michelle.roderick@redcross.org
734-717-5660 Cell 734-864-6623 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.

November 2014

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

December 2014

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 FREE!!!	10	11 Location Change!!! Livingston County EMS 1911 Tooley Rd Howell, MI 48843	12	13 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
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 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
28	29	30	31			