

THE LED

Published by the Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell, Michigan



APRIL 2007

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
April 12th 7:30PM at the
LOC, Highlander Way, Howell, MI**

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Van	N8GVD
Vice-President	Dick	W8KDR
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Clairus	KC8QQN
Program Director	Jon	KC8VAB
Tech Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
Board Member	Chuck	W8CLK

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

146.680 Repeater	Jim	WB8AZP
LED Editor	Jim	WB8AZP
VE Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
PIO Officer	Brandon	KC8YHE
PIO Officer	Jim	N8ENX

SOCIAL EVENTS



PREZ SAYS

The temperatures are starting to come up out of the deep freeze, and the birds have started to return to the area. Folks are talking about there new antenna projects. It must be the return of spring. So drop into the April meeting, and chat with fellow hams that may have the perfect solution for your next big antenna Project, or who may have already installed a rig in that new car you've been eyeing.

To be sure, LARK meetings have clearly been interesting over the last several months. We're looking forward to seeing you at the April meeting!

Van N8GVD



LARK Dinner before the Meeting (DBTM)

Check in on the 146.68 repeater.

LARK Saturday Morning Breakfast

Join us for Saturday morning breakfast, held on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Our current location is the Crossroads Grill, near the intersection of Oak Grove Road and M59 in Howell. (The restaurant is located near the south end of the Kroger plaza). This is a great opportunity to get together with hams that can't always make our regular Klub meetings, and for hams just passing through! All are welcome!



“What you are is revealed by what you do. What you do reveals what you really believe.”

EDITORS COMMENTS



March roared in...and roared out! FCC paperwork centered around our February testing efforts have finally been processed, and a number of new amateurs are already involved with the LARK. Come and meet them at the April meeting.

Articles

Thanks for all those who have taken the time to contribute real quality articles to the newsletter. Your editor appreciates the effort.

50/50 Plus Drawings

If you haven't attended a recent regular meeting, then you've missed out on fabulous prizes that are given away along with splitting the raffle pot. Ask a member who has attended for the low down. Better yet, why not show up at the next regular meeting? Regardless, the 50/50 drawing is a great way to help support the Klub, and the extra prizes give everyone a chance to win!

SUNDAY EVENING NET ON 146.68

We seemed to have slipped back into our old habits. Turn on your rig on Sunday evening, and check into the net! It won't cause you any pain or discomfort.

LARK SATURDAY BREAKFAST

It's just a nice way to offer an opportunity to mingle with the membership. These meetings are currently held at the Cross Roads Grill in Howell, on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, usually starting around 8 AM or so. Stop on in for a glass of water, or breakfast, or a cup of coffee. Heck, if I'm there (and I often try to be) you

can probably get me to buy your coffee! Oh yes, let's see; your lame excuse for not making it on Saturday morning is?

VE TESTING

With all the new emphasis on amateur radio, and our local PR efforts, VE testing sessions have been busier than ever. If you want to assist, you need to become a registered VE. Talk with me for details. There is nothing more rewarding than to be able to congratulate a person who has just made it through an exam!

OTHER COMMENTS

Your editor has been traveling more as a result of his "day job" than ever. What this means to you is that he's not as accessible, and often does not have the time to devote to newsletter production. Now more than ever, your editor needs support and help to accomplish the task of creating the LED, and keeping Klub members informed. That includes, but is not limited to, submitting articles in a timely fashion for the newsletter.

Although your editor believes passionately in the power of freedom of speech, he reserves the right to ignore commentary generated by those who refuse to assist. He will however, accept and publish rebuttal to his stance.

Support the Klub. It's important. Not just to the organization, but to the future of amateur radio as well. If you are not part of the solution, does that simply mean that you're part of the problem?

SKYWARN TRAINING A GREAT SUCCESS!

The Skywarn training March 28th at the Hamburg Fire Department was a great success. Thanks to all the amateur radio members who took time out of their busy schedules to attend this refresher. You demonstrate the desire to help the community and potentially save lives by providing early and accurate information.

THEN AND NOW...HOW A LARK MEMBER HELPED TO REKINDLE AMATEUR RADIO ONE HAM AT A TIME!

My story is simple: I received a Novice Class license in 1950 when I was 11 or 12 years old and converted it to General Class the next year when the "before" picture was taken at 13 years old in 1952.

I Kept the W8IEB call sign through college and operated /2 from Boston. I then went in the US military in Ethiopia and had ET3PT there for 3 years.

When I settled in Florida after the Service in 1965, the FCC gave me W4BMH and I used that for, perhaps, 5 years and then didn't renew it because of various distractions. During the subsequent lapse of Amateur Radio activity, I of course forgot about W8IEB until John Champa, K8OCL, during a routine call to him last summer as part of my consulting business (www.paulcom.com), happened to look it up in the FCC Data Base and let me know that it was available.

(I don't know if the call had ever been allocated to someone else in the interim...I'm going to do that research next.) In any event, when John told me about the availability of the call plus the fact that the FCC no longer required a numerical designator corresponding to the region where the licensee actually lives (I am now located in Oregon),

I instantly decided to get the call back. So last fall I went through the exam process and then the vanity Call Sign process and have

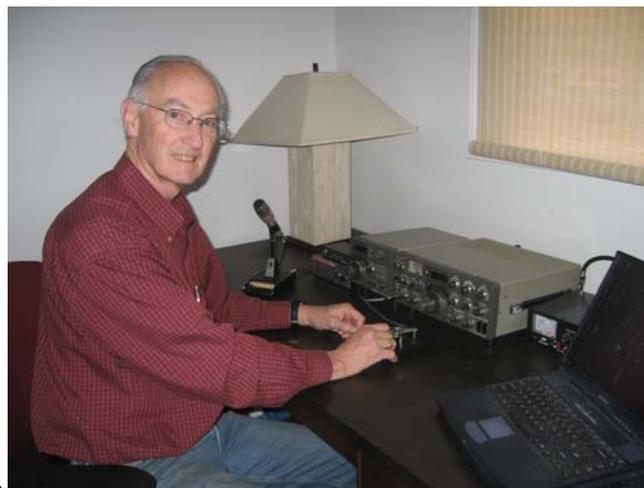
re-captured W8IEB some 42 years later.

I owe it all to John Champa...I'm going to take W8IEB to my grave!

Regards...Paul Thompson, W8IEB reincarnated



Paul Then...



Paul Now.....

"It often becomes the smallest of events that generate the greatest of changes..."

FCC ANNOUNCES EVEN MORE REGULATION CHANGES IN LATEST PRM ANNOUNCEMENT

It's been a busy month for the FCC. On the heels of the last big change in amateur radio licensing, the FCC has issued a PRM Order detailing their plans to apply new stipulations to amateur radio equipment manufacturers.

We've learned that PRM040107 details the proposed changes that will require radio manufacturers to install Morse code reader translation devices in all new transceivers manufactured after April 1, 2009. Further details require manufacturers to make available optional add on hardware or software to support Morse code translation in existing rigs, for a nominal fee, beginning next year.

The proposed changes were prompted by a civil suit filed in February of this year by the ACLU, cited R. U. Kidding, from the FCC enforcement division in Washington, D.C. "The suit claims that under the ADA (American Disabilities Act)

we must protect the rights of those amateurs who cannot copy the code”, says Kidding. “We’re just trying to take the quickest path to results with the smallest amount of effort required by amateur licensees...you know, the American Way” .

None of the equipment manufacturers were available for comment. It is not clear if the ruling will apply to equipment that hams may build themselves, although there is speculation that it may.

Amateurs can expect to pay higher prices for equipment going forward, if this ruling becomes law. Of course, amateurs are free to comment to the FCC on the matter, instead of just complaining about it on the air.

A spokesperson for the ACLU commented, “We must protect people from themselves. Our next target will be the requirement that all amateur radio transceivers include installation services so that disadvantaged hams will not suffer the indignity of unsuccessful processes” .

April Fools!