



THE LED

Published by the Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell, Michigan



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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
August 9th 7:30PM at the
EOC, Highlander Way, Howell, MI**

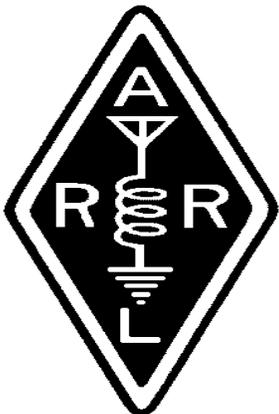
BOARD MEMBERS

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

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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

With summer in full swing I hope that everyone is getting those projects that are too cold in the winter to do, finished or at least well under way. We have Operation Care coming up, so I hope you can make time to help out. With Dick W8KDR out of commission for a while Pat KD8DZB is helping Mary KC8SER and Clairus KC8QQN with the schedule so let's not make it too difficult for him.

The power outages a couple of weeks ago it have left us without a DVR; the problem is being addressed. We have another picnic coming up in a couple of weeks, during the week this time, try to make the time to stop by for a little food, drink and conversation. If we're lucky with the weather again it will be hard to top. Hope to see you at the next 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



July is over! Hopefully, you've been able to work on some of those nagging antenna projects, before the cold and snow sets in.

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! We are adding testing opportunities every month now, so spread the word, and get studying for your upgrade!

Again as part of the August 2007 testing session, LARK is participating in a pilot ARRL program to bring Code Proficiency Testing to the field, in a similar manner as the existing W1AW on air testing currently available.

Remember, LARK is now sponsoring VE exams each and every month!

OTHER COMMENTS

Thanks to all who welcomed me back from my vacation! I had a great time in Alaska, got to play a little radio, and clearly relaxed. My work schedule has become even more hectic, so I'll need your support more than ever.

Please keep Dick, W8KDR, in your thoughts and prayers. Dick has been an outstanding asset for our club, and his short leave of absence leaves a huge void.

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?

Support the ARRL. Why? Because amateur radio needs the solidarity to survive, and your support can help drive this.

LARK General Meeting Minutes 7-12-07

The meeting was called to order by Van N8GVD. The pledge was recited and interdictions were made. Dick W8KDR gave a very good talk on NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave) antenna use.

Secretaries report accepted as read..

Treasurers report was postponed and will be in the next LED

Jon KC8VAB presented Dick W8KDR and Van N8GVD with their Assistant Emergency Coordinator Badges.

Technical reports, 3 of the antennas are complete on 3 water towers.

VE testing, 1 person earned their Technician license and 2 people to the Code Proficiency Test and passed at 15 WPM

Field Day was a success.

The Picnic will be held on July 15th at the Howell City Park, in the small pavilion. Bring a large dish to pass and a desert. Meat, buns, plates, napkins and drinks will be provided. \$2 per car.

Mary KC8Ser won the 50/50, again \$26.

Mack N8RBA made the motion to adjourn, bob K8PBA seconded, motion passed.

Submitted by Mary KC8SER

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub Offers Code Testing -- for Fun

The Livingston Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) began participating in a pilot study of an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) field code proficiency testing program in June. The third of the monthly sessions will be offered on August 14th at 7:00 PM. The location for the testing will be the Emergency Operations Center, 300 South Highlander Way, Howell, MI.

Morse code testing will be offered from 5-40 wpm in steps of 5 wpm. There is no charge to participate. The pilot program is essentially an extension of the long-standing Code Proficiency program conducted over the air from station W1AW.

The pilot program has been initiated in only four municipal areas in the ARRL Great Lakes Division of Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio. All area residents interested in demonstrating their ability to receive Morse code are invited to join in the testing.

Test participants do not need to be Amateur Radio operators. Successful candidates will demonstrate one minute of perfect copy of the transmitted text at one or more test speeds. Persons who achieve solid copy will receive a receipt that confirms their accomplishment.

Certificates suitable for framing are available from the ARRL for an additional fee.

For further information on Livingston Amateur Radio Klub Morse code testing runs, contact Dick Renaud, W8KDR (W8KDR@arrl.net) 810-923-3600 or Jim Kvochick, WB8AZP (WB8AZP@arrl.net) 810-220-2098.

Pre-register, or simply walk-in. Although knowledge of Morse code is no longer required to obtain an amateur radio license, you may be surprised to learn how

easy it is to develop and demonstrate skills in using Morse code. You too, can talk on the air with amateur stations around the globe that use this mode exclusively.

Picnic in the Park

July 15th about 28 members and family members showed up for a beautiful day in the Park. Van N8GVD was our chef for the day and did a great job.

We had a lot of different dishes to choose from.

Aug 15th is our next picnic in the Park.

Submitted by Mary KC8SER

AGRICULTURAL EXPO REPORT

Well, here we go again. Another Agricultural Expo has passed at MSU, and we were there. The “we” consists of Mac N8RBA, Ray KB8WYE, Charlie KB8OVJ, and Isaac.

A late start by one of the team who forgot to set his alarm sort of put us behind schedule, but we didn’t appear to miss anything.

Upon our arrival at MSU the first order of business was finding an empty sand-box, and there were many of them. One thing about those green and white little buildings is most of them smell alike.

We weren’t interested in tractors this year, it was the Automatic Bionic Milking Machine from Europe. We had to see this! More on this later.

Charlie found a tent where you could get free ice cream, he called us on the radio to inform us of this event, and the hunt was on. The tent was found and there stood 2 other LARK members standing in line for ice cream as well. Guys forgive me, but for the life of me, I don’t remember your names. I know one of you has a license and the other is studying for one. We all got our ice cream and went outside to sit on some bales of straw under a tent to enjoy it. We met an MSU police officer and had some good discussions about radio frequencies and gun permits and a whole lot of other things. He was a cool cat and a credit to his uniform

Mac, Ray, and Isaac got on one of the many rides that travel back and forth from the parking lots to the display area. The skills of the young man assigned to drive this unit amounted from slim to none. We were jerked, pulled, twisted, and bounced, and he couldn’t get the wagon closer than 2 feet to the load & unload platforms. Everyone on our wagon commented on his lack of driving skills. We finally got off and found the tent housing the Bionic Milker. Let me explain what this unit is supposed to do. The cow comes into the milking stall, the unit reads a number that is on a tag she has on her ear. The cow is weighed, and the date is entered into a computer. Her records are reviewed by the machine, and feed is dispensed relative to her milk production and current weight.

While the cow is eating the food, the automatic milking unit is locating her udder and teats. It then cleans the teats before it attaches the milking cups. When she is milked out the unit removes itself from the cow, cleaning the udder again before preparing for the next cow.

The demo unit that represented the cow was transparent, and had this white fluid representing milk flowing through it. The man demonstrating the unit appeared to have a Swedish accent. When I started asking him questions about it, he acted irritated that I was questioning the machines ability.

I was raised on a farm! I had to break 2 year old first calf heifers to milk for the first time, and I told this man that no first time heifer was going to stand for this machine touching her. I think that she would kick this thing into bionic junk. I asked him to show me a picture or a movie of this thing working on a real cow. He wouldn't answer me, so I walked away. I think he got angry because a few people were standing there while I was asking questions. Oh well, it was still something to behold.

The expo had a lot of cool machinery, and it was getting hot. We also observed a woman operating a steam engine. Those wet T-shirts last year at Oakley were nothing compared to the action on the lady riding that engine over rough hard ground.

A good time was had by all. On to Oakley next month & hopefully more steam engines with lady drivers.
73 Mac N8RBA



Congratulations to Steve, N8GQ, and his bride Janice!

Don't Forget Operation Care coming soon!

See you at the next LARK meeting!



2007 ARRL

Great Lakes Division Convention in conjunction with the 2007 Cleveland Hamfest

Date: Saturday, September 22, 2007 opening ceremonies at 11:30am

Location: Sheraton Independence Hotel, 5300 Rockside Rd, Independence, OH 44131

*We are very proud to announce our featured Banquet Speaker
will be Joel Harrison W5ZN, President ARRL*

Jim K8JE, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director will host the
Great Lakes Division Awards Ceremony

Top vote getting Seminars you ask for:

- Bob Heil K9EID and Chip Margelli K7JA, Heil Sound Workshop
- Speaker to be announced on Emergency Communications
- Bob Frey WA6EZV & Dick Arnett WB4SUV all about ARDF
- Tim Duffy K3LR "The K3LR Multi Multi Station"
- Jim Sanford WB4GCS Eagle Project Manager from AMSAT
- All about DX from beginners to Honor Roll Hams, seminars hosted by Tedd KB8NW, John K8YSE, Bernie W3UR, Don K8MFO, Bob K4UEE on VU7RD DXpedition plus a question & answer panel
- Wouff Hong ceremony after the banquet
- Hospitality room courtesy of CARS, LEARA & NODXA
- Card checking - DXCC, WAS, VUCC Low Bands & VHF Fri. 7 to 11pm & Sat. 1 to 3pm
- Please visit our sponsor tables Saturday 9:00am to 6:00pm



Joel Harrison W5ZN



Seminars only	\$25.00 advance - \$30.00 at the door
Banquet only	\$37.00 advance sales only
Full ticket	\$50.00 save \$12.00 advance sales only
Full ticket with a room	\$45.00 save \$17.00 advance sales only

Order your tickets on line now using a credit card or send a check!
Option: Reserved tables for 8 people may be requested with your payment

All Hams and those interested in becoming Hams are welcome.

Please attend the Convention to see what the ARRL has to offer.

Join the ARRL if you like what you see and hear!

Questions, ticket orders and latest news call 216-524-7711 - 216-524-1750 or goto:

www.2007gldc.org