

THE LED

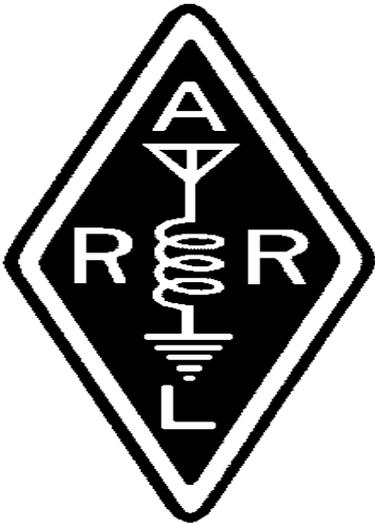
Published by the
Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell Michigan

December 2002

<http://www.qsl.net/milark>

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
PO Box 283
Howell, Michigan 48844

Dated Material



NEXT KLUB MEETING
DECEMBER 12th 7:30 P.M.
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
300 SOUTH HIGHLANDER WAY

NET
146.680 SUNDAY 9:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS

| | | |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| President | Steve | N8GQ |
| Vice-President | Bill | K8BI |
| Secretary | Mary | KC8SER |
| Treasury | Dave | KE8Z |
| Program Director | John | K8OCL |
| Tech Coordinator | Kenny | N4KCD |
| Board Member | Jerry | N8DY |

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

| | | |
|------------------|-------|--------|
| 146.680 Repeater | Jack | KA8BOG |
| LED Editor | Roger | N8SGU |

THE PREZ'S NOTES

I hope that everyone had a pleasant Thanksgiving. As I sit here looking out the window I see that we are heading into our first blast of winter. I can't believe that the year is coming to an end and winter is already here. Maybe Mother Nature will be kind and give us procrastinators a warm spell to finish our outdoor projects.

Lots of great training has occurred this year. We have completed a General and Extra classes. We are just about finished with our code class and hopefully the 4 individuals that have stuck with it will pass with flying colors. A number of public service training sessions have been held, with some great information being disseminated. Thanks to everyone who participated and/or was responsible for the training. I would like to especially like to thank Jerry N8DY for all the time that he has donated and Bruce N8WWX for his efforts and hospitality.

I would like to wish everyone and your families the merriest Christmas. May you be blessed with good luck, good fortunes, and good health everyday. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God Bless America.

73 Steve N8GQ

EDITORS COMMENTS

As we move into the Christmas season I would like to wish every body a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Remember to check out the new web page as it is a well constructed web site. The URL for the page is www.qsl.net/milark Due to a glitch in my

computer I lost all the information on my harddrive, including the E-Mail address's for the E-mailing of the LED. If you don't receive one and you have asked for E mailing please let me know rjackson@cablespeed.com.

Roger N8SGU

TREASURER REPORT GENERAL OPERATING FUND

For period October 1 – October 31 2002

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| OPENING CASH: | \$2,4056.77 |
| Total Income | \$40.26 |
| Total Expenditures | \$151.45 |
| Net Cash Flow | -\$111.19 |
| ENDING CASH | \$2,295.58 |

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| INCOME | |
| 50/50 Drawing | \$16.50 |
| Dues | \$20.00 |
| Interest | |
| CD (\$500.00) | \$3.76 |

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| EXPENDITURES | |
| Printing (LED) | \$19.20 |
| Post Master (LED) | \$11.10 |
| Sales Tax | \$1.15 |
| Sun-shine | \$45.00 |
| Telephone | \$75.00 |

Respectfully submitted,

Dave KE8Z Treasurer LARK

TREASURER REPORT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION FUND

For period October 1 – October 31 2002

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| OPENING CASH | \$635.75 |
| Total Income | \$000.00 |
| Total Expenditures | \$000.00 |
| Net Cash Flow | \$000.00 |
| ENDING CASH | \$635.75 |

Respectfully submitted,

Dave KE8Z Treasurer LARK

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lark Board Meeting

11/4/02

Present were Board members Steve N8GQ, Bill K8BI, Mary KC8SER, Dave KE8Z, Kenny N4KCK, Jerry N8DY, John K8OCL.

Dave handed out a corrected Treasures report.

Dave KE8Z advised the board members that he had received a bid of \$125.00 for the Diamond antenna which was advertised for sale in the October LED. John K8OCL made a motion to accept the bid. Kenny N4KCD seconded the motion.

Motioned carried Bill K8BI made motion to put money in Emergency Communication Fund. Kenny N4KCD seconded. Motioned carried.

Raffle: There is a lot of paper work to be filled out. We will start working on the paperwork.

Donations: A letter will be written asking those who use the 146.68 repeater and are not a member of LARK to help support it.

There was a discussion about upgrading the LARK from a ARRL Affiliated club to a ARRL Special Service club. Jerry will look into this matter.

Steve N8GQ talked to Jack KA8BOG about control of the repeater when he is not in the area. It was suggested to have four people trained to be control operators. John suggested there be a backup control operator for the 1.2 GHz repeater.

The SET is Saturday at 9:00 AM. Just come prepared.

Awards Banquet: The dinner will be in late January or early February. Mary KC8SER will head the committee. There are several people who can design and print the awards. Put your thinking caps on as to who deserves the WBP8OHO award and other awards.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30

Respectfully submitted
Mary KC8SER
Secretary

SECRETARY'S REPORT

General Meeting

11/14/02

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. John K8OCL started the evening off by introducing another great speaker. He was Steve Ford WB8IMY, Editor of QST magazine and author of ARRL'S HF Digital Handbook. Steve's talk was on "The Joy of PSK31". His talk was most informative to the novice as The Q and A session seemed to clear up some of the gray areas that were causing problems to many of us.

Twenty-six people attended another great teleconference arranged by John. Thanks John.

The business meeting began at approximately 9:05. Mac N8RBA made a motion to accept the Secretaries Report for the General Meeting of 10/10/02 as published in the November LED. Kenny N4KCD seconded. The motion was passed.

Bill K8BI made a motion to accept treasurer report as published in the November LED. Mac N8RBA seconded. Motion passed.

The CW class has two more weeks left before the last four letters are completed. The test will be held on December 2nd at the EOC.

LARK has a new WEB site. Tim WB8HRO and Steve N8GQ spent many hours putting together an informative WEB site. Please visit it at:
www.qsl.net/milark

The countywide SET was held on Saturday, November 9th. It was a tremendous learning experience and it would have been nice if more people had been able to attend.

Paul KC8UKF announced that there will be a Youth meeting at Blasters in Brighton on January 18th at 2 P.M. and all youths are invited.

Christmas Dinner: Anyone interested in having a Christmas dinner please contact Dave KE8Z by phone (517-521-4488) or e-mail (ke8z@arrl.net) with your ideas. Also if you plan on attending the dinner please let Dave know so final plans can be made.

Mac N8RBA made motion to adjourn. Bill K8BI seconded.

Respectfully submitted

Mary KC8SER
Secretary

P.S. The 50/50 drawing was won by Larry KB8QJE. He walked away with \$16.50. How lucky can you get?

Nine people enjoyed each other's company at dinner at Lil Porkys before the meeting. There is always room for more no matter where we go for dinner.

LARK DINNER

There were 19 people who enjoyed dinner at Chippers in Gregory on the 30th. A wide variety of dinners was ordered off the menu and some even topped dinner off with strawberry short cake for desert. After desert the door prize drawing was held. Chuck, Clarius, Rita, Casey and Isaac were the lucky winners. We had the pleasure of meeting a family of brand new hams (calls issued November 27th), Bob kc8vgn (dad), Casey KC8VGL (daughter), Peter (son) KC8VGM and mom. Mom was not able to take her test at the same time as the rest of the family due to other commitments. She will be taking her test very soon and then we will have another complete ham family in the area. We all welcome them and hope they enjoy this fine hobby.

Mary KC8SER



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Christmas dinner will be December 29th at 2 PM AT THE Red Robin, formally the Ponderosa, in Brighton. PLEASE call or e-mail Dave KE8Z for reservations, as I will make reservations for those that advise that they are coming. There will be door prizes.

Mary KC8SER

History's Mysteries!

(Or some ham arcanum explained, the origin of Hi-Hi and SK)

By Larry Clark, KØRS

To the comfort of the old timer, and often the frustration of the newbie, ham radio remains dedicated to (some would say mired in) tradition. Like many avocations, we have developed a vernacular intelligible only to the initiated. On a hot day we can pull a cool 807 from the fridge. Perhaps we must QRT to take the XYL to the store. Indecipherable phrases to general populace, but clear as a bell to the average ham. Often we perpetuate phrases because they are in general use, but have no idea of the origination of the jargon. I recently witnessed an ongoing discussion on another website about the etiology of one of our weirder conventions, the term; **Hi-Hi**. There was a lot of wild speculation about the origin of this particular term, but it was obvious that the opinions being advanced were only guesswork. Well, as Paul Harvey would say, "Here's the rest of the story."

Everyone knows "hi-hi" is the telegraphic laugh. It was picked up and popularized by phone operators, as that mode became common. Lots of folks think it's silly to use CW abbreviations on voice. They contend it's easier to just say what you mean and not use arcane codes. Well, I'll leave that for you to decide, but it's undeniable that these CW terms have become ubiquitous in the phone sub-bands. QSL? But why not just "ha-ha?" It's not like the letter "I" was much quicker or easier to send than "A" in code. It is sometimes speculated that the term should be "hee-hee", not "hi-hi" because of the peculiar way in which it is usually sent on CW. The letter "I" is drug out, not the normal "*didit*", but rather, "*dit dit*", two distinct characters. Well, there's our first clue.

Many of our traditions extend back to a time before there even *was* radio. Like "73", one of our other favorites, "hi-hi" was used extensively by commercial landline operators, and in the same context in which it's used today. Their code, known as American Morse or Continental Code, was similar too, but with some slight differences here and there from the International Morse we use today. One of the differences was the letter "O", which was not sent as the familiar "*dahdahdah*", but you guessed it "*dit dit*", with a distinct space between the elements. Timing not so great as to be mistaken for the letters "E E", but definitely not the "*didit*" of an International Morse "I". So,

it seems, the original term wasn't "hi-hi" at all but (drum roll here), "*Ho-Ho*", a term popularized by a jolly elf in a red suit around Christmastime, and instantly recognizable as laughter. Lots of these landline operators went on to become hams, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Then, what about "*SK*"? It's the term used to indicate "end of work", or in other words, "I'm signing off with you now." Well, just looking at the abbreviation it's logical to conclude that it is short for "silent key", and in fact that is what most hams accept. But like "hi-hi", the true origin is once again lost in the lore of those turn-of-the-century landline ops.

These guys often worked for news services, and the newspaper business was every bit as competitive then as the network broadcast news is today. A scoop on a competing paper meant increased sales and prestigious bragging rights. Like all good Morse operators, these men looked for ways to speed up their traffic the transfer of information on the landline circuits. One way to increase efficiency was to develop numerical codes that stood for common phrases that were repeated often.

Now, the newspaper business was a lot different then. Pressrooms were hot, industrial settings with linotype machines melting lead for type. Typesetters slaved away in noisy, uncomfortable and dangerous environments. It wasn't unusual for the Jimmy Olsons of the day to run from the lineman's office to the pressroom with an urgent breaking story one page at a time as the Morse operator copied it down off the wire. The lineman needed an unequivocal way to know when a story was finished, so the typesetter wouldn't set a partial story. The numerical code in use provided a way to do this, the signature "*30*", which meant, "end of work." When the lineman received "*30*" from the sending station, he knew the article was complete.

Take a look at the number "*30*" in Continental code. Three is "*didididahdit*", or *_.* And zero, while technically the five familiar dashes, was abbreviated with one long "*daaaaah*", just as we do today. Well, what is that in International Morse but *._.* or "*< b>SK*"! When these guys got on the air with their new-fangled wireless devices, the old conventions died hard indeed they didn't die at all. And the new guys just coming up picked up the Old Timer's habits without even knowing why, just accepting that that was how it was done. Although it's more rare today with the advent of electronic keying devices, listen to some ham still using a bug or straight key. Nine times out of ten he will drag out the last element of "*SK*" just like the landline ops did "*didididahiddaaaaah*". He's sending Continental

Code without even knowing it! And that, dear friends, "is the rest of the story."

reprinted from e-Ham.net

Public Service Corps

I would like to thank all those who participated in the October and November SET's. We trained more members in digital communication to the State EOC, while others demonstrated the ability to set up shelter communication with the equipment on hand. We also did some propagation studies at various locations throughout the county.

I would also like to thank Tim WB8HRO and Steve N8GQ for attending a MICON meeting at White Lake for me. There will be only one combined SKYWARN class next year eliminating the Basic and Advance classes. The SKYWARN class for Livingston County will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2003, 7pm at the Hamburg Twp Fire Department training room, located on M-36 just east of Pettysville Rd., mark your calendar.

I would like to wish all of you all Happy Holidays!

If you have any questions, please call me, 517-546-4620, ext 3.

Bruce Pollock,
Assistant Director
Livingston County 911/EM
EC, N8WWX

VE/CE Session

Congratulations to Melissa KC8UTF for passing her CW Exam. Just in time for an HF rig from Santa Claus.

Also; congratulations to Bill K8BI for successfully passing his Level 1 Emergency Communications Exam.

Steve N8GQ

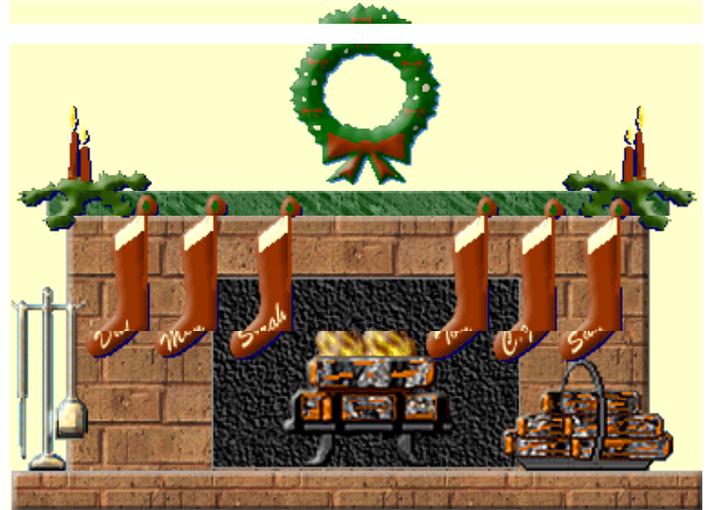
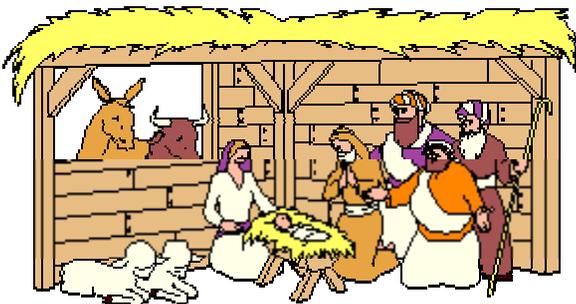
DIVISION DIRECTOR'S

Members of the ARRL's Great Lakes Division have elected Jim Weaver, K8JE, of Mason, Ohio, to lead their division for the next three years. Weaver, with 2295 votes, topped the field in a three-way race. Incumbent Gary Johnston, KI4LA, got 1629 votes, and Paul Daley, WT8S, picked up 783. Incumbents were re-elected in contested races in the Atlantic, Delta and Midwest divisions.

"I will seek opinions and fully represent the division," Weaver said during the Great Lakes campaign. "I will not forget that ARRL is its members." An ARRL Life Member and an amateur licensee for 40 years, Weaver also pledged--among other things--to seek ways to improve recruitment, promote increased awareness of League services and join the fight against restrictive antenna laws, ordinances and deed covenant, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs).

Weaver served as a Great Lakes Assistant Director under four directors. He's active in traffic nets, DXCC and 10-10 International as well as in local clubs, and he once wrote a newspaper column on ham radio.

The former Great Lakes Vice Director, Johnston had been seeking election in his own right to the director's position he gained following the surprise resignation of George Race, WB8BGY, during last July's ARRL Board of Directors' meeting. Former Michigan Section Manager Dick Mondro, W8FQT, was unopposed for Great Lakes Vice Director.



RED CROSS

GREAT JOB! The cross training between the communicators and the Red Cross has been a great success. The hams made up almost everyone in attendance for the basic classes. All those who attended Tim has added to the ARES list for Livingston County. The overall enhancement to the county is one with which I am personally pleased.

For those who were not aware Bruce Pollock (N8WWX) came to the October Red Cross Disaster Action Team's monthly meeting and presented Incident Command to the group. The cross training will allow everyone to work with each other with far fewer misunderstandings at the beginning of a disaster when everything is in chaos anyway.

Anyone wishing to attend the monthly meeting it's held the first Wednesday of the month at the Red Cross office at 415 N Barnard St. Howell (this is right behind Tim and Laura's house) at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited, and more volunteers are always needed if you are so inclined to assist.

Jim and Jeanene Van Every

