



THE LED

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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
December 14th 7:30PM at the
EOC, Highlander Way, Howell, MI**

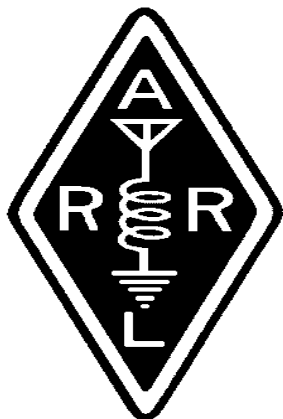
BOARD MEMBERS

President	Art	KC8WAZ
Vice-President	Bruce	N8GVD
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Clairus	KC8QQN
Program Director	Jon	KC8VAB
Tech Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
Tech Coordinator	Jon	KC8VAB
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



"Why not attend a meeting in person, or at least join us for breakfast on the first and third Saturday of the month? Amateur Radio needs your involvement to help keep it an important hobby and public service. Thank you for your support!"

73, from your President, Art KC8WAZ

LARK SOCIAL NOTES

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!



ARROW GENERAL CLASS

The next ARROW (Ann Arbor) General Class License Course will start Tuesday, January 16, 2007. It will either take place in KB6NU's basement in Ann Arbor or in Room 3437 in the EECS Building on U-M's North Campus (see map at <http://www.umich.edu/news/umnc.html>).

The class will meet from 7pm to 9pm each Tuesday evening for eight to ten weeks. The class will cover all of the theory and regulations needed to pass the General Class license test. Here's an outline of what we will cover:

Introduction

Electrical Principles

DC Circuits

- * Voltage
- * Resistance
- * Current
- * Ohm's Law
- * Kirchoff's Laws
- * Resistors in Series and Parallel

Power

- * Decibels

AC Circuits

- * Reactance: Capacitive and Inductive
- * Impedance
- * Transformers

Circuit Components

- * Resistors
- * Capacitors
- * Inductors and Transformers
- * Diodes and Transistors

Signals and Emissions

- * Signal Quality
- * Amplitude Modulation
- * Single Sideband
- * Frequency and Phase Modulation
- * Digital Modes

Practical Circuits

- * Power Supplies
- * Filters
- * SSB Transmitters
- * SSB Receivers

Antennas and Feedlines

- * Polarization
- * Random Wire Antenna
- * Vertical Antenna
- * Half-Wavelength Dipole Antenna
- * Directional Antennas
- * Loop Antennas
- * Feedlines
- * Standing Wave Ratio (SWR)
- * Impedance Matching

Propagation

- * Ionospheric Propagation
- * Critical Frequency
- * Maximum Usable Frequency
- * Solar Activity
- * Scatter Modes

Operating Procedure

- * Telephony
- * Operating Courtesy
- * Emergency Communications
- * Directional Antennas
- * Station Records
- * Digital Communications

FCC Rules

- * Operating Privileges
- * Transmitter Power Standards
- * Good Amateur Practice
- * Prohibited Transmissions
- * RF Power Amplifiers
- * Administering Amateur Exams
- * Station Identification

Amateur Practice

- * Test Equipment
- * Testing Transmitter Performance
- * SSB Power Measurement
- * Station Accessories
- * RFI
- * Safety
- * Mobile Operation

RF Safety

- * Safety Principles
- * Safe Exposure Levels
- * RF Exposure Rules
- * Field Strength Measurements

Setting Up Your Station

- * HF Equipment Features
- * Buying Used Equipment
- * Station Location
- * Practical Antennas

Exam Review

While not exactly part of the course, KB6NU will offer some guidance on learning Morse Code. (It is, after all, still a requirement!)

There is no fee for the course, but you will have to purchase (or at least want to purchase) a copy of the ARRL General Class License Manual. To register for the class, or for more information, contact KB6NU, at 734-930-6564 or by e-mail.

CONTAINERS WANTED

Marge N8EAJ is looking for large 4 to 6 gallon size tins. The ones that come with popcorn, potato chips or such in them. She makes her own special caramel corn for Christmas and needs the tins to put it in. In the past Marge has been popping at least 20 pounds of kernels to make the caramel corn. Bring them to the LARK meeting, please.
Thank You

EDITORS COMMENTS



It will soon be Christmas. Hopefully, you've already given thoughts about what gifts to give those folks on your list. Don't forget yourself on that list, by resolving to support the LARK in the coming year. Amateur radio, and in particular, this Klub, can use your support. Together, we can represent all that our hobby has blessed us with, and can help it grow in the coming years.

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?

OTHER COMMENTS

Thanks to all those folks who took the last training session we offered at the EOC. As others have pointed out, as we become more important to the served agencies we support, they'll be asking us to become even better prepared. One mechanism to handle that has become our Saturday training sessions.

See you at the next meeting, right? (Even if you're not a member now, you can become one!) Need a ride to the meeting? We'll send someone to get you! Need someone to buy you dinner before the meeting? We can probably take care of that, too. Not sure if you have enough change to buy yourself a refreshing beverage at the meeting? We'll handle that for you as well. Afraid the room will be too cold for you? Bring your blanky. Dress is casual, so don't worry about digging out your Tux or Formal. We have plenty of seats in the front (or back) row for you. Do you have another unique excuse for not attending the meeting? Why not share it with others, in a lovely article for the newsletter?

Support the Klub. It's important. Not just to the organization, but to the future of amateur radio as well.

AWARDS BANQUET INFORMATION

The awards banquet is coming up in February. Everybody that has attended can vouch for the good time we have with the white elephant exchange. Some of the things are very good and useful and some are not.

This year I would like to request that if at all possible do not bring back any of the white elephant goodies you were so lucky to win last year. Garage/yard sale season is about over for this year so getting something real cheap that way is hard to do if you do not already have something. Maybe you could even ask a relative, friend or neighbor if they have something to donate to the cause. Remember to tell them all the proceeds go to a charity. You could bring more than one item if you so desire. So start looking around for real goodie and save some of that fancy Christmas wrapping paper to make your package look very desirable. Lets enjoy the evening!

Who is going to receive the HAM of The Year Award this year? Be thinking about this.

Who do you think should receive an award this year? It could be a very well earned recognition for work done and time spent making ham radio and/or the LARK more enjoyable. Or maybe a recognition for a real good screwup we all seem to make every once in a while. Maybe it could be just something funny that happened that you think the comedian ought to get recognition even if he/she doesn't think so. Let Marge know your suggestion. She is very anxious to put her new computer to the test of making those fancy certificates. Phone number 517-546-9209 or email at margemelosh@yahoo.com. She does need some ideas!

Ray N8CPO

TREASURER REPORT

OPENING BALANCE OPERATIONS FUND

OCT 31 2006	713.34
50/50	62.00
TOTAL BALANCE NOV 30, 2006	775.34
1000 CD	1248.04
500 CD	613.13

TOTAL BALANCES NOV 30, 2006 2636.51

BALANCE FROM EMG FUND AS OF OCT 31 2006
BALANCE 700.45

DEPOSIT DONATIONS 50/50 62.00
DEPOSIT DONATIONS 500.00

TOTAL BALANCE AS OF NOV 30, 2006 1518.45

Antenna and Tower Projects

About the middle of August Don N8SKE keyed up the repeater and asked for help taking down the antennas and tower in Pinckney from where Greg Yost W8RCA had recently moved. Shortly after moving Greg had taken a fall and passed away.

Several hams said they would help. The weather was checked and a date set. The tools we thought were needed got located and four of us met at the Lakes Grill for breakfast and later to discuss a plan of attack. The weather was calm and clear when Don N8SKE, Dick W8KDR, John KD8CCR and I, Ray N8CPO, assembled for the project.

The first thing was to reconnect a couple guy wires to make the tower stable. John requested to go up the tower first and start taking down the wire antennas and the pipe that was holding them. When John got up the tower and started working on what appeared to be an 80 meter dipole horns came buzzing out of the TV antenna mast being used to hold the antennas and feed line. Don had some wasp spray that was quickly sent up to disperse the pesky critters. John said that later he was glad he only got stung once but none of us heard him scream.

The next time we met out there Dick showed up late. He said some woman pulled out in front of him and rearranged the left front fender of his truck. With the dipoles down I went up the tower to start removing the tri-band beam. With the gyn pole holding the weight via a rope tied to Don's front bumper things came down pretty smooth. The 40 meter dipole, 2meter antenna, mast and rotor all got to the ground without anything getting bent or broken.

Getting the tower sections apart was another story. The tower jack pry bars did not have the correct spacing or adjustments to pry the tower sections apart. A lot of time was spent using boards as pry bars and a big hammer to jar things but the sections were not moving much. Don finally went to the local hardware and bought a bottle jack. With numerous boards to get the right height the sections still came apart with some difficulty. At the end of the day the upper guy wires and top two tower sections were on the ground.

We then went to work getting the guy wire anchors out. This turned into a bigger job than expected. The screw-in anchors just did not want to screw out. We dug up the ground around one and then Don hooked onto it with his truck and pulled it out. The guy wire anchor in the back yard was a post so we left that. Don then hooked onto Dick's front bumper and pulled it out so the tire would not hit in a turn. We called it a day.

The next trip out I went up the tower and just as I got to the top of the remaining three sections I saw four wasps sitting on the guy wire about 4 inches from my face. I stepped back down a couple rungs and asked Don to send up the can of break cleaner from the trunk of my car. One quick shot of break cleaner and the hornets fell towards the ground.

The remaining tower sections also came apart with difficulty. When everything was down Dick and I sat down on the back porch to take a break and Don went to get his trailer. Looking down I saw the four hornets I had sprayed earlier all laying about 1-½ feet from the tower in a semi circle. The spool that held the rope for the gyn pole was broken so Don went to the hardware and purchased a hose reel to keep the rope on. It worked real nice to coil the rope onto and should be great for storage.

Upon contacting the Yost family they donated the tower and antennas to the LARK. All the equipment was transported and stored in Clairus pole barn. Jim W8JPM requested to purchase the tower and antennas. I contacted the Yost family again and was given the rotor controller. Jim donated \$400.00 to the LARK for all the antennas, tower and rotor.

Ray N8CPO



Santa Jim was busy preparing the LED,
When out in front of his house a
Member of his transportation team was
Hungry.



Hey Santa Jim how about a

LARK Christmas Dinner Party

at the *Prairie House Restaurant*, in front of Wal-Mart,

on Grand River in Howell? We will make it at

4 PM on Sunday December 10th.

The food is great and you can feed each deer for *under \$10.*

What a great Christmas gift. Lets Invite all the deer and the dear.

The deer/dear will be so happy they

will give you a great big

CHRISMAS SMACKERROO!



And for those of you eavesdropping on this message,

Don't be a little Christmas mouse and miss out on this

BIG DEER/DEAR FEAST.



YOU WILL MAKE SANTA JIM

GET UGLY!

Dick W8KDR

(From Father Christmas, (Emerson, Lake, & Palmer)

.....I wish you a hopeful Christmas,
I wish you a brave New Year,
All anguish, pain and sadness,
Leave your heart and let your road be clear,
They said they'll be snow at Christmas,
They said they'll be peace on Earth,
Hallelujah Noel, be it Heaven or Hell,
The Christmas you get you deserve.....

LARK ID BADGES

If you need or desire a LARK Photo ID badge, you will need to get a digital picture of yourself to the editor, or attend a meeting so we can snap a Digital photograph. We'll be making another run of these beauties at the

Beginning of 2007.



It wasn't that long ago, was it?
