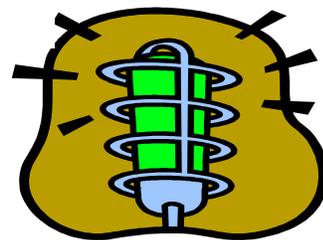




THE LED

Published by The Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell, Michigan



OCTOBER 2004

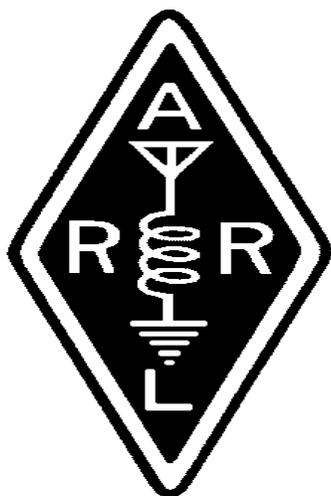
Livingston Amateur
Radio Klub
PO Box 283
Howell, Michigan
48844

www.qsl.net/milark

NET 146.680
SUNDAY 9PM

CLUB CALL IS: KB8ZTV

NEXT KLUB MEETING
October 14th 7:30PM at the EOC,
Highlander Road, Howell, MI



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Art	KC8WAZ
Vice-President	Bruce	N8GVD
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Clairus	KC8QQN
Program Director	Bob	K8VQC
Program Director	Jim	WB8AZP
Tech Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
Tech Coordinator	Jon	KC8VAB
Board Member	Chuck	W8CLK

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

146.680 Repeater	Jack	KA8BOG
LED Editor	Jim	WB8AZP
VE Coordinator	Greg	AA5GO
PIO Officer	Brandon	KC8YHE
PIO Officer	Jim	N8ENX

SOCIAL EVENTS

9 Oct 2004 Northwest Ohio ARC <http://www.nwoarc.org>
Contact: Gary Clements, KC0JDT 2395 St. John's Road
Lima, OH 45802 Phone: 419-227-6573 Email:
kc0jdt@fairradio.com

10 Oct 2004 Kalamazoo ARC & Southwest Michigan AR Team
<http://www.kalamazoohamfest.com/khf/> Contact: Donald
Eikhoff, WD8IDJ
PO Box 555 Galesburg, MI 49053 Phone: 269-665-6421
Email: Information@KalamazooHamfest.com

10 Oct 2004 Medina 2 Meter Group <http://www.qsl.net/m2m>
Contacted Eyedom, K8NVR 3312 State Road
Medina, OH 44256 Phone: 330-239-1686 Email: k8nvr@arrl.net

31 Oct 2004 Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Assn.
(USECA)
<http://www.useca.net> Contact: Scott Madison, WN1B
2700 Glen Valley Drive Leonard, MI 48367

PREZ SAYS



THE PREZ SEZ:

I awoke this morning, blessed by the dawning of a NEW DAY! We at The L A R K K L U B are also entering into a NEW DAY, with all of the opportunities , a new day can bring, for those that will seize the moment!

This past year , for our KLUB , has been challenging , and exciting both with fun events , programs , and maintenance issues with our machine , which is to say the least getting " Tie-er-ed " if not- just plane exhausted !

As has been our tradition in the past, we at The LARK KLUB are demonstrating that we are also up to the challenge of resolving the issue of an exhausted REPEATER ! By UNITING our efforts and PLANNING OUR WORK , we are succeeding at Working our PLAN to complete our project to replace our repeater, for the good of ALL !

A progress report will be made at our next regular Monthly meeting , Oct. 14, 2004 so please plan to attend this important meeting!

" G O D " bless us All , and73
Art.....

LARK SOCIAL NOTES

LARK Dinner Before The Meeting (DBTM).

Mr. D's Restaurant, Howell. The restaurant is located across the street from the Secretary of State office. See you there!



Secretary's Report General Meeting September 9, 2004

Meeting was called to order by Art, KC8WAZ. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

Mac, N8RBA made a motion to accept the Secretaries Report, with Zack, KC8YHU as second. Motion Passed.

After discussion of moving \$211.00 between the emergency and general fund, a motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, by Dave KE8Z, and seconded by Mac, N8RBA. Motion Passed.

Correspondence: One LED was returned, Bills for Operation Care, and Ft. Wayne Hamfest information.

Mac, N8RBA bought bungee cords for our canopy.

Committees: Bruce, N8WWX, gave us an update on homeland security and emergency management.

Sunshine report. \$65.00 collected. Many thanks have been received for cards that the Klub has sent.

Public Relations: Brandon, KC8YHE will be publishing upcoming events in the newspaper, etc...

Operation Care: \$700.00 was collected. A big thanks to Clairus, KC8QQN, for a great job in planning the event. Also, a big thanks to all that participated. Clairus, KC8QQN resigned as chairperson, and Mary, KC8SER, accepted the chair.

Rummage Sale to support the replacement of the repeater September 17th, 18th, 19th. Many folks signed up to help.

Jim, WB8AZP, gave a talk on the new repeater, and detailed how much it will cost. Pledge cards were passed out to those attending the meeting, and mailed to everyone else.

50/50 drawing was held, with Van, N8GVD being the winner of \$59. He donated it to the emergency fund.

Submitted by:

Mary KC8SER

SECRETARY'S REPORT
LARK Board Meeting September 2004
Board Minutes

Meeting called to order by Art KC8WAZ (Van, N8GVD & Jim, WB8AZP absent)

No audit of finances as of yet.

We need to refine membership list for the Klub.

Insurance of \$385.00 is due.

Chuck, W8CLK made a motion to pay our bills when funding was available. Bob, K8VQC, seconded. Motion Passed.

Silent Key. Work is continuing on this project.

Chuck, W8CLK made motion to adjourn. Bob, K8VQC second it. Motion passed.

Submitted By,

Mary KC8SER

TREASURER REPORT

TREASURER REPORT
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR PERIOD SEPT 1, 2003 TO SEPT.30, 2003

OPENING CASH (CHECKING ONLY)		\$ 647.60	
INCOME			
AUG 50/50			
26.50			
DONATION FOR PICNIC FOOD			5.00
EXPENDITURES			
AUG PICNIC MELISSA			13.04
MARSH AFFINITY INSURANCE ON EQUIP.	325.00		
ROGER JACKSON, PRINTING JULY 1		21.92	
ROGER JACKSON, PRINTING AUG 1		31.46	
ENDING BALANCE SEPT 31			\$ 287.68
OPENING CASH (CD \$1,000.)			\$1,206.50
INTEREST ON MATURITY			15.09
OPENING CASH (CD \$500.)	588.29		
TOTAL OPERATING CASH.			\$2,097.56

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
FUND TREASURER REPORT.

PERIOD SEPT 1, 2003 TO SEPT.30, 2003

OPENING CASH (CHECKING ONLY)		\$1,094.75	
INCOME			
0.00			
EXPENDITURES.			
DEPOSIT TO DAVE FOR STORAGE UNIT.	100.00		
BALANCE SEPT 30.			\$ 994.75

Respectfully submitted,

Clairus KC8QQN
Treasurer

TREASURER REPORT
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR PERIOD SEPT 1, 2003 TO SEPT.30, 2003

OPENING CASH (CHECKING ONLY)		\$ 647.60	
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Respectfully submitted,

Clairus KC8QQN
 Treasurer

WANTED!!!!

I need as many peanut butter containers as possible, something like 50 of them would be great. I would like them to be with lids and of the 16oz size. I have a wide assortment of nuts, bolts, washers and such that is in need of a new home instead of in the bottom of the draws of my tool boxes. Thanks in advance for your help.

Clairus KC8QQN

STILL LOOKING

I'm still looking for additional pictures to be included in the Klub photo album. If there are any photos of Sub Drew at our outings, I would like copies. Additionally, any Klub

pictures of any LARK activities would be appreciated. Please bring them to a LARK meeting or send them to me!

Mary, KC8SER
220 N. Rogers
Mason, MI 48854

EDITORS COMMENTS



Fall is kicking into gear, and I couldn't be happier. I really enjoy the autumn days, and look forward to all the sights, sounds, and smells of the season.

The weather clearly has given emergency workers and responders a run for their money this year. You are supporting their efforts, by supporting the local radio clubs in the area.

Amateur Radio needs your support, and part of that support comes by way of supporting local radio clubs, like LARK. If you have a differing opinion, I'd love to hear from you.

Articles

We still need YOUR articles for the newsletter. Swap items, favorite stories, magical operating moments, remembering your favorite rig, the time your dog ate your logbook, whatever. Need a suggestion for a good article? Just call! Need help writing it down? We can assist you. In case the thought of "trick or treat" has left you a little confused, you can reach me at:

Jim Kvochick WB8AZP
10366 Greystone Court
Brighton, MI 48114-7650

810-220-2098 Voice
810-220-2126 Fax
330-283-7070 Cellular

WB8AZP@ARRL.NET

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?

SUNDAY EVENING NET ON 146.68

Let's not forget about the Sunday evening LARK net on 146.68 at 9PM. It's a great time to connect with other LARK members, share information, and just in general gather on the repeater. You would think that a club the size of ours could muster up more than a handful of checkins, now wouldn't you? Why not even volunteer to take on the Net Control responsibility for one or two Sundays to gain some experience? Don't need experience in running a net? How about just volunteering to help out?

SILENT KEYS ON LARK WEB PAGE

We still have a Silent Key section on the LARK webpage. Feel free to send me additions to this section. If you have special requests, please contact the LED Editor. Please note, the membership requested this change, the LARK webmaster made this change, and the membership has responded by doing virtually nothing. I'm still confused by this one.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The technical committee has presented their suggestions for repeater upgrades, and the club has responded by beginning to earn money for the work that will be done.

REPEATER ISSUES

With the help of many folks, we have the existing equipment at the 146.68 repeater running as well as it can. That's great, but not good enough, if we are going to continue to support our community in providing emergency communications services. We need to strongly consider upgrading the existing repeater hardware, and prepare for additions to improve our performance within Livingston County.

The Livingston County management team assisted us in the past by providing funding for purchasing equipment. Homeland Security policies and procedure changes make this very difficult to do this at this time, which means our group, and concerned supporters will bear the cost of the planned upgrades. LARK needs your support, both in the physical and fiscal sense, more than ever before.

We are blessed with much technical talent within the LARK, but we still need to plan for the next 20 years of repeater operation. As we look to fund our planned upgrades, I ask those that can to contribute generously to our cause.

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!

Jim WB8AZP

ARPSC

Public Service Corps News

Saturday, October 1, 2004 there was an ARES Demonstration from 10am -2pm at the Brighton Home Depot during the Public Safety Day events. Operators

attempted to promote voice radio and digital modes, by letting interested participants talk on the radio to other amateurs throughout Livingston County. We had some people stop by the demonstration and ask some questions, however, we had very few people that stuck around or wanted to talk on the radios. Like any first time adventure we had some problems to overcome, however, I think the set up went well. The Brighton Home Depot managers did like our setup.

=-

Also we were not invited to the same Public Safety Day demonstration at the Howell Home Depot. We would like to be included in the Howell demonstration next year where we could have both the Brighton and Howell tables talking back and forth to each other. There appeared to be some interest in what HF activity might be on the air at the time. So we would like to set up some HF capability for next year's demonstration.

For all those that were at the demonstration and those that listened patiently for some activity on the radio I wish to thank each of you. I believe we made a valid effort, however the business was not there for us.

The Livingston County SET

The Livingston County SET will be an orientation to county government, Incident Command System training and a tabletop drill. The training will be held on November 6, 2004, 9am, here at the EOC. You may be asking yourself do I need to show up. I have my ticket and anyone can talk on the radio.

1. First question that you need to ask yourself, have I shown up at any ARES training so the EC or AEC's know who you are and know your capabilities.
2. Who is responsible for the safe recovery of any county disaster or emergency?
3. When there is a message on the DVR for staging at a specific location do know what it means?
4. What questions do you need to ask?
5. When told to report to the Logistics Chief do you know who it is and who he/she reports to?

If the answer is no, we will see you November 6, 2004, 9am. If the answer is yes, come be an Elmer, we will see you November 6, 2004.

Ingham County will have a SET on November 4, 2004. What participation if any has not come forth?

TOWER AND AMATEUR EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Al Corr W8IW is selling his amateur radio gear and tower. Please contact his daughter, Barbara Chick 810-229-4675 for information.

HOBBY DAY AT CROMAINE LIBRARY

The LARK has been invited to participate in "hobby day" at the Cromaine Library on Saturday, October 16th, from 10AM until 2PM. Brandon, KC8YHE, will be commenting more about this at the next meeting. If you just can't make it to a meeting, find Brandon on the air. Amateur Radio needs your support, and this event, just like Operation Care, helps present Amateur Radio to the community.

OPERATION CARE LATE NIGHT (Mac, N8RBA)

Hi Fellow Hams;

I promised WB8AZP, our Editor, an article for the LED on Operation Care, during our midnight to 4AM shift. So here goes it.

First, I want to commend KC8QQN on the fine job she did in the leadership of this project. Also thanks to the many people who took on the many other shifts, and to the many individuals who kept the supplies moving.

It was great seeing the Klub pulling together for this event, and thanks to the folks who loaned equipment as well.

SATURDAY AM MEMORIAL WEEKEND

About 1:45 a lady named Debbie from Cleveland, Ohio arrived, practically on a dead run heading for the ladies room. She was dressed in a halter top and pedal pushers, that were both one size too small.

She descended on our station after finishing in the ladies room, where she shared with us her life history. She was 24 years old, had two kids, and had been divorced twice. Man, I can sure understand why! She never shut up the whole time she was there! Debbie told us she had talked her mother into watching the kids for the weekend, and was headed to Grand Rapids to hook up with a guy she met on the Internet, who lived in

Holland, Michigan, but didn't have a car. She had his cell phone number, but didn't have a clue about anything else, and had been talking with him for about a year.

She got loaded up on donuts and bread, and claimed she hadn't eaten all day, because she didn't have the extra money for food. Driving a min-van with a lot of miles on it, half a tank of gas, and three condoms, she was on her way to meet her new boyfriend, and hit him up for the money to return to Cleveland. Boy, was I glad she left!

About 2:30 AM all hell broke loose across the expressway, a bunch of coyotes were chasing something. Along with that, a police car heading eastbound, with all his equipment running, followed shortly by two more cruisers headed in the same direction. The next thing we witnessed was the Medivac helicopter flying fast and low over operation care. We figured it was a bad accident, but we later learned that was the night two cops got shot near Brighton.

Then we discovered the homeless guy in the parking lot who was living in his car, and was using the rest area to sleep at night. The rest of the night was quiet, but darned cold. KB8OVJ and I went home later that morning.

We had Saturday night off, but we had the Monday AM shift – it was very cold with lots of wind. Some scared one of the local skunks, and we had the pleasure of smelling him the rest of our watch. The person who takes care of the rest area came in about 3:30 AM, and said he found 3 drug needles in the woman's side, and 4 on the men's side. On our trip home the heater in the truck sure felt good. I almost forgot to mention that a friend and a fellow Mason, Chet Cramer, AB8ML, came from Fenton to visit us during our watch that weekend.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

On Saturday we had the same shift, midnight to 4 AM. Boy was this night going to be one to remember. First off, while traveling down Grand River near Hacker we observed a couple of boys in a Ford Taurus acting goofy. When I got parallel to them they would speed up. So, when we got to the light at Hacker road, we had to stop. The light changed and the Ford started to squeal their tires, so I punched the truck and we were off. I then looked in the rear view mirror, and they had backed off. Charlie and I both laughed, we figured the boys thought they ran into a "hemi".

About 2 AM two guys arrived at operation care, and they were stoned. These guys couldn't hit the ground with their hats. They had been to a concert in Detroit on Friday night, and made a wrong turn leaving the concert, winding up in Port Huron, instead of Lansing. Oops. One of them had a stud or bolt through his lower lip. He spotted the potted plants sitting on the card table along with a couple of ripe tomatoes. He wanted to buy one of the plants. I told him they weren't for sale. Then he tried to bribe us to turn our heads while he took one and left 4 dollars. I still told him no. Never did figure out if he wanted to grow it or smoke it! Then, they wanted the tomatoes. I had to think fast, so I told them they were special for one of our members who had stomach

problems. Of course, they wanted to know what made them special, so I said they had castor oil in them. Then they asked what that was, because they had never heard of it. I told them it was used to loosen their bowels up. They asked what would happen, so I told them they would crap their pants and would have to go to the car wash to get cleaned up. Finally they understood.

Then there was a young couple who wanted to know what ham radio was. She had a voice like Ethyl on the Archie Bunker show. It was apparent that they weren't married. They had arrived in a pickup truck, and when they got back into it, all at once she exited, slamming the door. He got out of the truck, and we heard him tell her she was not smoking in the truck.

Last but not least, there was a car that contained two ladies and a guy. The guy sort of was hurrying to the men's room. Feeling the call of nature myself, I headed to the men's room. I just got inside when coming from the stall the guy went into came a sound that was a cross between a fog horn and the bellowing of a bull. I asked the guy if he was ok, and he said, "yes". As I was leaving the building he said thank goodness he didn't cut loose with that in his mother in-laws car.

The homeless guy was there sleeping in his car again. And our good friend the skunk was in fine form again, behind the building. End of Shift.

Next year, if the Klub decides to do operation care on Labor day, I will NOT be available for any shifts especially if there is a family reunion on Labor day as there was this year. The call came in after I had said I would work. I kept my word and didn't get to go. My wife, daughter, and grandson went. Next year, if I'm still alive, I'm going.

73

Mac N8RBA

International Space Station (ISS) is in your reach!

After reading the article about using simple antennas for ISS contacts in the September 2004 QST, I thought I would give it a try. As I told the folks on the repeater that night, "Just going to try another futile attempt at hearing a satellite." I had tried to hear beacons of other amateur satellites before with mixed results, but the QST article seemed to say it was possible so why not give it a try.

I got out the old satellite tracking software and loaded the new orbit data in for the ISS. It showed me that there were going to be two orbits that would be visible that night so we were set ready to go. We had a 5/8 wave vertical at 20' and tuned in the downlink frequency of 145.800 MHz. We watched as the tracking software showed that space station approaching. Just as the software showed that the ISS should be above the horizon we started getting squelch breaks. With in about 2 min we could hear voices and made out some VE6 calls. In another 30seconds the signal from the space stations was giving me an S7 to S9 on the meter and we could hear several contacts being made. I was very surprised and we had a solid signal for 6 minutes out of the 10+ minutes that the ISS was above the horizon. We made no attempts to adjust frequency for Doppler shift, just set on the one downlink frequency. You could tell at the beginning and end of the run that we where off in frequency but most of the time things were very readable.

Well, as one would guess, when you have a success you must try again. We were able to receive the signal on the next pass and several passes the next day. We had to try to see if we could transmit and be heard by anyone. The uplink frequency is 437.800. So now we set up a two meter radio to receive and a 440 radio to transmit. Both were running plain verticals and we only had 20 Watts on the 440 transmitter. Because of this I figured that if we were to make contact it would be near the highest elevation during the pass and the larger that elevation the better. The first few attempts we did not seem to be able to make the uplink. On our 5th or 6th try, which had a peak elevation of 75 degrees, I made transmission and heard my self on the downlink frequency. With the vertical and the 20 watts it was very weak and scratchy and no one came back to my call. But we called it a success and started looking at building a 440 beam.

The Kenwood radio that is now being used in the space station has been used in voice cross band and packet. I have not been able to find a schedule of when it will be in voice or packet so I just tune in and see what comes up. Over the week that we have been playing with this it has gone back and forth between voice and packet.

I think everyone should be able to hear the ISS and most of us should be able to make the radio wave trip up to the station. So give it a listen and if the mood strikes, see if you can make a contact.

Good Luck,

Jon Harris
KC8VAB

Here are some internet links that might help.

<http://www.ariss.net/> ***Amateur Radio Stations heard via ISS***

<http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm> Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

<http://www.arrl.org/ARISS/> ***ARISS: Amateur Radio on the International Space Station***

<http://www.dransom.com/stsplus.html> STSORBIT PLUS Space Shuttle and Satellite Tracking Software by David H. Ransom, Jr.

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/kep/> ***Amateur satellite orbit data sets***



CQ, CQ, CQ!

THE USECA HAMFEST



Sunday, October 31, 2004 - 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

American-Polish Century Club

33204 Maple Lane

Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Talk-in on 147.18 + (100 Hz. PL)

Seminars * Door Prizes * Great Food * Ham and Computer Wares

For more information, directions, and table reservations, visit the USECA Hamfest web site at www.netcommander.com/home/scottm.

SPUTNIK I ANNIVERSARY

* Sputnik I anniversary noted: The world changed this week 47 years ago

when the Soviet Union successfully launched Sputnik I on October 4, 1957.

The world's first artificial satellite was about the size of a basketball and weighed just over 180 pounds. Sputnik I took about 98 minutes to orbit Earth on its elliptical path, and radio amateurs around the world enthusiastically tuned in to monitor its 20 and 40 MHz beacons.

The satellite's 1 W transmitter fed four antennas deployed at 35° angles, and three silver-zinc batteries powered it for three weeks. In addition to ushering in a new era of political, military, technological and scientific development, Sputnik's launch marked the start of space exploration and gave rise to the birth of NASA.



A picture of someone's new antenna farm



Van Wert Radio Club at the Fair



Operation Care...just like normal



Amateur Radio at Home Depot



The Yard Sale That Is Playing a Large Part in Funding Our New Repeater