



THE LED

March 2010

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Howell, Michigan

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
Thursday, March 11th, at 7:30PM
EOC, 300 S. Highlander Way
Howell, MI**



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Jim	WB8AZP
Vice-President	Van	N8GVD
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Patrick	W8LNO
Program Manager	Jon	KC8VAB
Tech Director	Les	W8MSP
Director	John	KD8CCR

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

Repeater Trustee	Jim	WB8AZP
LED Editor	Michelle	KD8GWX
VE Coordinador	Jim	WB8AZP
PIO Officer	Brandon	KC8YHE
PIO Officer	Jim	N8ENX
Web Site	Les	W8MSP

The Livingston Amateur Radio Klub maintains the 146.680 (Negative Offset, 162.2 CTCSS) and also the 444.525 (Positive Offset, 100.0 CTCSS) repeaters in Livingston County.

Jim's Jive

Good News Everybody! The first signs of spring have started to appear in my corner of the county. Along with the bigger than ever potholes and piles of nasty grey melting snow, our swan families have begun returning to the little lake behind our house. I'm looking forward to nearing the end of winter, sooner the better, as far as I'm concerned.

Our annual awards banquet was, as always, too much fun for words. We enjoyed good food, great fellowship and all the excitement of learning who you voted to receive "Ham of the Year". Our traditional white elephant was also a huge success and we were able to donate quite a bit of money to a local charity. If you didn't make it, you missed a great occasion.

During February I traveled back to Mansfield, Ohio for their annual Mid-Winter ham swap. I grew up in that geography and always enjoy visiting with the folks there. I'm grateful that many of my Elmers are still alive and active in the club there and enjoyed visiting with them.

I'm hopeful that many of our old friends will be visiting us at our LARK meetings and functions. Life is indeed too short to pout about things that don't go your way. I am often reminded of much wiser words from my father:

1. Free your heart from hate.
2. Free your mind from worry.
3. Live simple.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

My dad always felt that you had it within your power to make the best of any situation; that we each own the responsibility for our impression on and of the world. It saddens me to know that hams won't pull together to support amateur radio in Livingston County, all because they are not getting "their way" and still insist on not helping out. It's even sadder that folks in and around the county use the repeater systems we maintain and never bother to contribute anything. Like it or not, for the good of amateur radio in Livingston County, please encourage all radio amateurs in the county to support our efforts. The solidarity we demonstrate here in the county will become far more important to our hobby going forward.

LARK BREAKFAST

Join us on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 8 AM for our Klub breakfast. Bring your questions, what you've been working on, whatever, to share with the group. We have more technical expertise and talent available to you at these events than most companies can bring together in a month.

A new special incentive is the LARK Free Breakfast program. If you're a FULL Member in good standing, you get the opportunity to win your breakfast. What could be more fun? Our breakfast event is held at the Grand River Grill near the Woodland Medical Center. I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

LARK PROJECT

The follow on project to our Ten Tec receiver kit build will be a digital display / frequency counter kit. This kit will include a buffer amplifier to help isolate the VFO of the receiver, and make the project more successful for double duty as a generic 0 to 45 MHz counter. We'll be ordering the components during the month of March. First priority for the new kits goes to those who have already successfully completed the 40 meter receiver kit. If you assemble your counter kit at the meeting, there will be no additional cost to you. If we have any leftover counter kits, you can buy them for the cost to the Klub. Very special thanks go out to Ray, N8CPO, for taking on the task of laying out a circuit board for the required buffer amplifier. Again, ONE free kit for each FULL membership and ONLY if you assemble the kit at our meeting. If you have a receiver kit and need help in completing it or getting it working, contact us!

LARK RADIO RAFFLE

We're planning for our next radio raffle. What prize would you like to potentially win? Bring your ideas to the meeting or the LARK breakfast!

PROGRAMS

What programs would you like to see? What do you want to learn about? Better yet, what would you like to present? I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Remember, support Amateur Radio by supporting the LARK! See you at the meeting!

73



Jim WB8AZP

Thought for the day ...

"You cannot teach a person anything, you can only help him find it within himself."

-Galileo

Finance Report ...

OPENING BALANCE OPERATIONS FUND

January 29, 2010 ----- \$1052.62

INCOME

50/50 ----- \$ 66.00

Dues ----- \$ 266.00

Awards ----- \$ 314.00

ACCOUNT BALANCE ----- \$1698.62

EXPENSES

Insurance ----- (\$ 183.00)

Insurance ----- (\$ 20.00)

NEW ACCOUNT BALANCE ----- \$1195.62

1000 CD ----- \$1390.59

500 CD ----- \$ 667.34

TOTAL BALANCE February 28, 2010 ----- \$3253.55

BAL. FROM EMG FUND AS OF JANUARY 31, 2009

BALANCE ----- \$3682.65

INCOME ----- \$ 0

ACCOUNT BALANCE ----- \$3682.65

EXPENSES ----- \$ 0

TOTAL BALANCE as of February 28, 2010 ----- \$3682.65

LARK General Meeting Minutes 2-11-2010

No minutes submitted at this time for the October LED Newsletter.

LARK Board Meeting Minutes 2-18-2010

No minutes submitted at this time for the October LED Newsletter.

And the award for Amateur Radio Operator of the Year goes to ...

Patrick W8LNO



Congratulations Patrick for this incredible repeat performance!!! You deserve it!

Good reading!

From my dear friend and amateur radio cw guru, Tim KT8K

If you haven't checked it out before, the latest issue of "PileUp", the official webzine of Contest Club Finland is available at http://www.helsinki.fi/%7Ekorpela/jako/PU1_2010.pdf . It is packed with funny and technically-interesting articles, and is a great read.

I am always interested in reading about the Radio Arcala project and the Monster (330' rotating tower with a 3 el. 160m beam, a 5 el. full size 80m beam, and -new- stacked 4 el. 40m beams). There is a lot more cool stuff in this issue besides that, though.

Best rx & hope you enjoy the read, 73 de kt8k – Tim

Thanks Tim!

Humor for the day ...

The Talking Dog!

During a recent trip to the local swap meet, my wife and I drove around the back woods of East Texas . On one back road I saw a sign in front of a broken down shanty style house:

"Talking Dog for Sale."

Well I needed a break so I stopped to see what the deal was. I went into the backyard and see a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

"You talk?" I ask.

"Yep," the Lab replies.

Well after I got over the shock of hearing a dog talk, I asked "So, what's your story?"

"Ah shucks there ain't much to tell. Is that a VUU screwdriver antenna on your truck out there?"

"How did you know that," I asked?

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I'm a ham radio operator. I got my Ticket when I was a young pup and in no time at all I had my 5 band DXCC in Phone and CW.

The CIA heard about me and asked me to do some spy work for them. I would hang around the communications centers and with my keen hearing I could copy the transmissions. Because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping, I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years." Copying high speed CW all day really tired me out and I knew I wasn't getting any younger.

So, I decided to settle down. I retired from the CIA (8 dog years is 56 CIA years) and joined a ham radio club. In fact I won fourth place in the 10GHz and Up contest two years in a row. Then I sired a mess of puppies and got away from Ham Radio for a while. I sure miss my radio. Why don't you buy me and I'll be your CW operator in the Texas QSO Party?

I said "let me see what I can do." I went back in and ask the owner what he wants for the dog.

"Ten dollars," the guy says.

"Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He's just a No-Code Technician."

Michigan's Proposed Tower Law - PRB-1 – A Call For Your Action

First off, I personally thank all of you who have already contacted your legislative representatives!

Current Status of HB # 5556

The Michigan Proposed Tower Law (previously referred to as the Michigan Emergency Communications Preservation Act — PRB-1) is currently in Michigan's House of Representatives' Committee on [Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs](#). Representative Lindberg, the Bill's original Sponsor, is asking the Committee Chairperson to move on the Bill. This is the normal practice to get the Committee to function on a bill. Once a bill is accepted or modified and accepted by the Committee, it moves to the House Floor for discussion and/or vote. The Bill can also be rejected by the Committee. Once on the House Floor, if there are enough supporting Representatives, the bill passes the floor vote.

Now is the time to write, call and/or personally contact the members of the Michigan Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs Committee.

Here are the quick & dirty steps to contact our Committee Members:

- Step 1:** Review the below linked draft Bill.
- Step 2:** Open a new email window.
- Step 3:** Cut and paste the below e-mail address list into the To: address line.
- Step 4:** Fill in Subject: Line with: "Please Support and Act on HB # 5556".
- Step 5:** Cut and paste the below message text to the message box. Tailor the letter to your words as you see fit.
- Step 6:** Send the e-mail.

A copy of the Draft Bill can be found at <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2009-HB-5556>

The below is an email address list of Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs Committee Members. It can be cut and pasted into an e-mail's TO: addressing line.

Michigan's Proposed Tower Law - PRB-1 –
A Call For Your Action (continued ...)

MarieDonigan@house.mi.gov; VickiBarnett@house.mi.gov; TimBledsoe@house.mi.gov; HaroldHaugh@house.mi.gov; RobertJones@house.mi.gov; DebKennedy@house.mi.gov; ColemanAYoungII@house.mi.gov; PeteLund@house.mi.gov; CindyDenby@house.mi.gov; ArlanBMeekhof@house.mi.gov; WayneSchmidt@house.mi.gov;

The below is sample text for an e-mail to our committee members. It can be cut and pasted to your new email and edited as you desire. Please add you signature, name & address and phone # where indicated in the **BOLD** font, below.

... **Start of sample text**

To: Members of the Committee on Intergovernmental & Regional Affairs

As you know **HB #5556** has been referred to your Committee. I urge each of you to give this legislation the attention it deserves. Amateur Radio Operators provide invaluable assistance to the citizens of the State of Michigan and Emergency Preparedness Organizations we serve.

It is important that you take steps to move House Bill # 5556 through Committee and assure a vote on the House Floor on a timely basis. I solicit your support and action on this Bill.

Warmest regards,

Add your Signature here
Add your Name
Add your Address here
Add your Telephone number here

... End of sample text.

It is critical that you now take the time to contact our Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs Committee Members and ask them to support House Bill # 5556!

Thanks for taking your time to do this!.

Len Todd, N8AGS
MPTL Project Manager
N8AGS@arrl.net



A Call to Weather Spotters far and wide

The National Weather Service will be busy this spring conducting Weather Spotter Training Classes and hosting booths at many special events. Please feel free to come out and visit with our Meteorologists at the events listed below.

UPCOMING NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EVENTS

We invite you to visit representatives from the National Weather Service at the following events this spring:

Spring Boating Expo - March 11th-14th (Novi, MI)

Embracing Our Earth VI Festival - April 24th (Bad Axe, MI)

UPCOMING WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

We encourage all of our spotters to attend a spotter training session at least every 2 to 3 years to refresh the training materials and learn about any updated information. The following is a list of all the Skywarn Spotter Training Classes offered in Southeast Michigan this spring. Please visit the following web site for times and locations.

<https://apps.weather.gov/outreach/MI.php>

Please register with the county offering the class in advance as space may be limited.

LOCATION	DATE
Port Huron, St. Clair County	3/15/2010
Southfield, Oakland County	3/16/2010
Chelsea, Washtenaw County	3/20/2010
South Lyon, Oakland County	3/21/2010
Groveland Twp., Oakland County	3/22/2010
Owosso, Shiawassee County	3/23/2010
Lapeer, Lapeer County	3/25/2010
Detroit, Wayne County	3/27/2010
Livonia, Wayne County	3/29/2010
Sandusky, Sanilac County	3/30/2010
Clinton Twp, Macomb County	3/31/2010
Midland, Midland County	4/01/2010
Trenton, Wayne County	4/02/2010
Canton Twp, Wayne County	4/07/2010
Saginaw, Saginaw County	4/08/2010
Adrian, Lenawee County	4/09/2010

A Call to Weather Spotters far and wide (continued)

LOCATION	DATE
Clinton Twp, Macomb County	4/10/2010
Saline, Washtenaw County	4/13/2010
Pontiac, Oakland County	4/17/2010

Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County	4/20/2010
Clinton Twp, Macomb County	4/21/2010
Hamburg, Livingston County	4/22/2010
Garden City, Wayne County	4/24/2010
Farmington Hills, Oakland	4/26/2010
Bay City, Bay County	4/28/2010
Caro, Tuscola County	4/29/2010
Novi, Oakland County	5/03/2010
Bad Axe, Huron County	5/06/2010

NOAA Weather Radio Show

Tune in to the NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio to listen to a live show put on by the staff of the National Weather Service on April 14th at 7 pm. Meteorologists from the National Weather Service will be answering your questions live on the air. You may submit questions in advance by emailing the webmaster at <http://www.weather.gov/detroit> or by calling in your questions during the broadcast.

Reporting Review

When calling in a report please use the “TEL” system which stands for time, event, and location(county/city) of the event. If you are reporting wind speed or hail size, please remember to mention if the value was measured or estimated. If making a damage report, please reference the closest major intersection. The list below outlines what information that should be reported to aid our warning operations.

- Wind gusts over 40 mph
- Hail with a half inch diameter or larger (plain M&M or bigger)
- Funnel Clouds
- TORNADOS
- Waterspouts
- Rainfall rates of 1” per hour or more
- Significant flooding of rivers or streets
- Post Storm Damage



A Call to Weather Spotters far and wide (continued)

Please make sure when making a spotter report that you remember to report What, Where, and When. The location of the event is very important to us. Please identify your location by first giving us your County so that we can narrow down your position, then giving us your City, and major nearby crossroads.

All aboard!!! For the 2010 Dayton HAMvention!

The ARROW Communications Association is proud to sponsor a motor coach trip to the [Hamvention](#) in Dayton, Ohio. Started in 2002, this annual club activity has grown in size and reputation with Hams across Michigan. We have been host to over 300 Hams for this event. Last year was a sell out and based on early interest, we expect to sell out again this year!



The bus departs from Ann Arbor at 4:30 am, arriving in Dayton around 8:00 am. On board, you can stretch out, relax, chat with other Hams and enjoy a continental breakfast with coffee as the coach takes you directly to the door of the country's largest amateur radio event! We arrive at Dayton early enough so that you can enjoy a full day!

When [Hamvention](#) closes at 5:00 p.m., return to the entrance with your purchases and our bus will pick you up for the ride back home. No standing in lines waiting for a shuttle bus or fighting traffic!

Got Stuff to sell? We can help!!! Got stuff you want to get rid of? We will have an attended booth space in the flea market. If you buy a bus ticket, you can sell your stuff at our booth. The cost of the booth alone is \$70.00 more than the cost of the ticket, which makes the ARROW trip a GREAT value!

This is no ordinary bus trip—it's an **ADVENTURE!**

You may contact Michelle, KD8GWX, your LED Editor, for details about the trip and to find out how you can be entered in a raffle to win one of two FREE Dayton Hamvention tickets!

Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, michelle.Roderick@wc-redcross.org
734-717-5660 Cell 734-260-7893 ARC Cell 734-712-0133 FAX

Please bring any articles you'd like to have in the next meeting. If you are unable to attend, have a friend bring the information to the meeting for you, email it to me at the above address or feel free to fax it to my work at the above number.

Thanks to everyone for the articles submitted to make the September 2009 LED a success!

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
7	8	9 VE Testing 7 PM Howell EOC	10	11 LARK Meeting 7:30 pm Howell EOC	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 LARK Board Mtg 7:00 pm Teleconference	19	20 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
4	5	6	7	8 LARK Meeting 7:30 pm Howell EOC	9	10
11	12	13 VE Testing 7PM HOWELL EOC	14	15 LARK Board Mtg 7:00 pm Teleconference	16	17 LARK Breakfast 8 am The Grand River Grill
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	