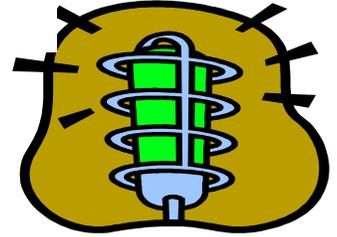




# THE LED

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Klub

MAY 2005



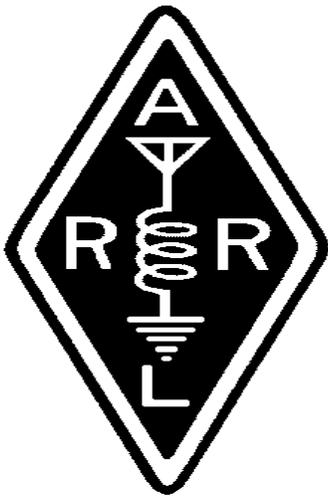
Livingston Amateur  
Radio Klub  
PO Box 283  
Howell, Michigan  
48844

[www.qsl.net/milark](http://www.qsl.net/milark)

NET 146.680  
SUNDAY 9PM

CLUB CALL IS: KB8ZTV

NEXT KLUB MEETING  
April 14<sup>th</sup> 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

The Only Important Event this month is Dayton Hamvention!

PREZ SAYS



"See you at the meeting"

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## LARK SOCIAL NOTES

LARK Dinner before the Meeting (DBTM)

Ask on the repeater.....



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## Secretary's Report General Meeting March 10, 2005

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

Duane, N8WMN, made a motion to accept the Secretaries Report, Irene, KA8MVW, was second. Motion Passed.

Mac, N8RBA, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report this month. Ray, KB8WYE, was the second. Motion passed.

Sunshine Committee sent out birthday cards.

ARES/RACES: April 30<sup>th</sup> is the date for the big Livingston County CBRNE exercise.

Bob K8PBA gave a report on a recent presentation at the ARROW club, maybe we could get the same team to present at our group.

Brandon, KC8YHE, told us about joining the ARRL through the Klub so we could receive a commission on that membership. He also highlighted several PR articles in the local papers.

Jim, WB8AZP, gave a report on the new repeater, and detailed some of the fine tuning still to be accomplished. He also added that the PL tone was most currently off, unless there were band issues requiring it to be activated.

Jim, N8ENX, made a motion to apply for a vanity call for the Klub. Duane, N8WMN was second. Motion passed.

Rita made a motion to have the LARK Christmas dinner at the American Legion Hall 141. Jim, N8ENX was second. Motion passed.

Mac, N8RBA, made a suggestion to write a thank you note to the American Legion Hall 141 for the use of their facility during our awards banquet.

Mac, N8RBA, presented an award to Mary, KC8SER, since she was not able to attend the awards dinner. He also presented a dual award to Mary, KC8SER, and Clairus, KC8QQN, for volunteers of the year.

Marge, N8EAJ, reminded all of us to save your VG's receipts, and give them to her for redemption.

Van, N8GVD, won the 50/50 \$66.50

Mac, N8RBA, made a motion to adjourn, and Ray, KB8WYE, was second. Motion passed.

Submitted by:  
Mary KC8SER

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**SECRETARY'S REPORT**  
**LARK Board Meeting March 2005**  
**Board Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Van, N8GVD. Four board members were present.

Copies of manuals for the repeater controller were paid out of the general fund. Chuck, W8CLK, made a motion to pay for these out of the emergency fund. Van was the second, and the motion passed.

Clairus, KC8QQN, made a motion to pay for the dinner of the ARRL director, Jim Weaver, K8JE, who spoke at our last meeting. Van, N8GVD, was the second, and the motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By,

Mary KC8SER

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## TREASURER REPORT

### TREASURER REPORT GENERAL OPERATION FUND

FOR APRIL 1, 2005-APRIL 30 2005

OPENING CASH \$680.91

#### EXPENSES

LED DEC 04 \$55.10

2005 FEB \$43.40

DONATION TO FAMILY OF TOW TRUCK DRIVER. \$272.00

#### DEPOSITS

50/50 BOTH HALFS \$106.00

DUES \$130.00

DUES \$20.00

TOTAL BALANCE \$566.41

OPENING CASH CD 1000 \$1,230.81

OPENING CASH CD 500 \$593.77

TOTAL OPERATING CASH \$2,370.99

### EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FUND TREASURER REPORT

OPENING CASH CHECKING ACC ONLY \$1,854.77

AMATURE ELECTRONIC CHECK IS ADD BACK CORRECTION \$74.96

#### DEPOSIT

DONATION \$30.00

ENDING BALANCE \$1,959.73

BALANCE FROM SUNSHINE COMM \$114.44

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## LICENSE STATISTICS

License Class	May 2000	March 2005
Novice	49329	29098
Tech +	334254	318387
General	112677	137334
Advanced	99782	77035
Extra	78750	106238
ALL CLASSES	674792	668163

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## EDITORS COMMENTS



May, that magical month, is finally here. I've already had the opportunity to help on one antenna project, and looking to help out on a few more before Memorial Day. You'll of course be pitching in if someone needs a hand, right? It's also a real good time to write that article you've "been meaning to" for the LED. I look forward to seeing your upcoming work! 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, but I don't think you can expect me to sway far from this mark. Besides, no one really reads this newsletter anyway, so I can say whatever I feel like it.

## Articles

We still need YOUR articles for the newsletter. Swap items, favorite stories, magical operating moments, remembering your first rig, the time your dog ate your logbook, swap and for sale items, favorite recipes, whatever. Need a suggestion for a good article? Just call! Need help writing it down? We can assist you. In case you just can't seem to remember how to reach me:

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](mailto:WB8AZP@ARRL.NET)

146.680 MHz most evenings

Actually, don't bother. No one really reads this newsletter anyway. We might as well not have a newsletter. It's just a perfectly good waste of paper.

## 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? Don't have the net preamble? Read the rest of this issue of the newsletter. Just want to have something to whine about? Fine, waste your talents. Besides, we really don't need a radio club anyway.

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The technical committee has begun the design effort to deliver on the next phase of the repeater, remote receivers! The technical team is also working on a number of projects that may be of interest to you, if you're paying attention. They include low cost packet TNC's, QRP transceivers, and evaluation of potential club projects. Drop into a meeting, or drop me a note. On second thought, don't bother. That way, we can keep it a secret, and we don't have to share it with anyone.

## OTHER COMMENTS

Be sure to welcome our new LARK members when you hear them on the air or see them at a meeting.

Be sure to ignore calls for assistance on the repeater, too. It helps set the tone for how we operate around here.

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. Dress is casual, so don't worry about digging out your Tux or Formal. Do you have another effective excuse for not attending the meeting? Why not share it with others, in a lovely article for the newsletter? Remember, if you're not part of the solution,

you're simply a part of the problem. Or perhaps you prefer to be part of the problem? OK, you're in good company. Eight out of Ten hams are part of the problem.

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## A New Repeater in Town

by Jim Busard N8ENX

Hey, there's a new repeater on the airwaves in Livingston County. It's a UHF repeater and is located approximately 3 miles SW of the LARK repeater. The frequency is 444.825 +5 MHz shift and uses a PL of 107.2 Hz (Most of the time. HI HI).

The repeater also has an IRLP Link built into it. For those that aren't familiar with IRLP, it is the Internet Radio Linking Project and is the predecessor to Echolink. IRLP works pretty much the same way as Echolink you enter a 4 digit code to connect to another node pretty much anywhere on the planet. For more detailed information and a list of nodes, visit [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net). The node number for the N8ENX repeater is 4341. To access the IRLP node you must enter the prefix code of 38 plus the node number, to disconnect from a node, you enter 38 73. Example, to connect to the IRLP echo reflector, you would key the repeater, ID yourself for the IRLP Link and enter 38 9990 and unkey. You will here a voice message come back and confirm your connection. The echo reflector is the same thing as the LARK radio check command except it stays on until you disconnect ( 38 73).

I've had this repeater on the air since 1982. It started out in Canton, was move to a tall commercial building in Southfield and then moved to my Dad's house (W8BYB) in Livonia. Now that I finally have my tower up, the first thing I wanted on it was the repeater. Since it's move, it still needs some fine tuning and I need to get the hardline on the system so the coverage are is rather sporadic. However, I have the transmitter output turned down so that it matches the receive capabilities. In other words, how you hear it, is pretty close to how it is hearing you.

So if your capable of operating on 440, put this one in the memory bank and feel free to use it, the IRLP Link is a lot of fun and on Tuesday nights we have a Michigan IRLP Linkup net that is a lot of fun, feel free to join in on Tuesdays at 9 pm. And hopefully in the near future, this machine will be linked to the LARK 146.68 machine which will allow the IRLP Link to be used by those who don't have 440 equipment.

73,

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Public Service Corps.

I would like to thank you for giving up your Saturday to assist with the district wide Livex-05 Full Scale exercise. Since this was mainly a multi-hospital, multi-EMS and public health exercise it was

unknown how much traffic was to be generated. The only thing I did know was that we were invited to participate district wide, this has not happened in the seven years I have been an EC.

Twenty-four of you showed up ready for deployment all with the necessary equipment. This made deployment a lot easier than expected. We learned a lot and noted some problems to be solved and/or worked around. What makes me proud is that we did not have to ask for mutual aid. You all came and took care of business. Thank you, you were great!

Bruce Pollock, N8WWX, EC

---

2 May 2005

To: Bruce Pollock

Cc: Assistant Emergency Coordinators  
LARK LED

From: Bob Hitchens K8VQC, Acting Emergency Coordinator for LIVEX-05

Subject: LIVEX-05 ARES/RACES After action report

LIVEX-05 was a very large-scale training exercise involving multiple Public Safety Organizations and many volunteers from Livingston and surrounding counties. Twenty-four (24) LCARPSC (ARES/RACES) members responded to the exercise as well as two visitors who accompanied members and assisted. In addition, the District Emergency Coordinator for District 1, Joe Pullen, K8YZA, attended as an observer. Your AEC's were very impressed with the attitude and capabilities displayed by those members participating in this exercise. Everyone came ready, willing, and able to participate. Every member of the Livingston County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps. can take great pride in the way their organization performed at this exercise.

As stated above, this was a training exercise and as such, it enabled us to test our capabilities and identify those areas where we can make improvements. Included below are some of the lessons learned, but first, I am happy to report that there were no major breakdowns in our operation capability. We were able to implement the necessary radio links to complete the tasks we were given. The items listed below under "Lessons Learned" should be viewed as simply "Fine Tuning" to our operations plan.

Lessons learned:

Because we experienced no operational problems that could not be resolved, the following are listed in no particular order of importance.

1. Pre-staging

- It gave us a chance to brief everyone and make sure everyone was prepared for the activity (they were prepared!).
- For future operations, we might select a location more central to the county.
- Activities at Pre-staging took longer than we expected.

2. Staging operators near the Incident site.

- Six (6) operators were sent to a location close to the incident site. From there they could respond quickly as the situation progressed and our role expanded. Note: Due to the shortness of the exercise, I do not believe all 6 were fully utilized, but they would have been had the exercise lasted longer.

### 3. Incident Site Operation

#### Recommendations:

- a. The initial deployment to the Incident scene should be a task force consisting of:
  - i. An Incident site manager to react to requests for additional services and call them up from the Incident scene staging area.
  - ii. An Incident scene liaison to interact with the Incident commander and his staff.
  - iii. A two-person data communications Strike team with portable packet and Winlink 2K capabilities.
  - iv. A two-person strike team to record and report equipment and/or personnel arriving and departing the scene (as requested by the IC or EOC staff) or other duties as assigned by the Incident Site Manager.
  - v. A cross-band repeater to ensure communications between HT's used at the scene and Net Control.
  - vi. An additional Hi power radio w/antenna and power supply that can be setup in the mobile command post. Note: The current Livingston County Mobile Command Post has a dual band radio installed. The newly planned Livingston County Mobile Command Post will have a TM-V7a installed.

### 4. Hospital Operations

- a. The operators requested more opportunities to practice with the equipment to improve efficiency and their own level of confidence.
- b. Need to implement and train on simple Packet operation for those messages not needing to go onto the Internet (i.e., Tactical messages between hospitals or from the Incident site).
- c. The Woodland site needs an additional antenna for two-meter simplex or maybe a cross band repeater set up in the parking lot. RF does not get out of, or into, the building more than about a foot from the windows.

### 5. EOC Operations

- a. Establish a simplex link between the EOC Liaison person and the radio room to expedite message movement. Note: During this operation there was a concern expressed that the amateurs were not getting answers back to the field fast enough. The real problem was that there was no one in the EOC to provide answers to the questions. It has been agreed that in the future we will report back to the sender that their message has been delivered and we are awaiting an answer. By implementing this process, we can reassure the sender that their message has been delivered, and we can remove any doubt about whether or not Amateur radio is doing its job.

### 6. Net Control Operations

- a. Two operators should be assigned for each NET. One to handle the radio and one to log the activity
- b. Net Control operators requested that digital clocks be installed at each console to facilitate the recording of the time.
- c. A standard form for logging net activities should be used by Net control operators. The forms should be kept in a three-ring notebook so they are available to relief operators and the EC.
- d. We will establish a process to monitor message traffic and track open issues (e.g., questions not yet answered) to ensure they are closed.
- e. Net control operators should wear headsets – the radio room gets very noisy due to the many radios in operation and multiple ongoing conversations. Note: For training and management purposes, the Net Manager needs to be able to hear all radios and that issue will be addressed.
- f. Tactical call signs will be used for all future operations.
  - i. Less confusing for Net control operators and others
    1. Easier and faster to copy than individual call signs.
    2. Consistent throughout the exercise.
    3. Eliminates the need to know who is where.
  - ii. Tactical call signs will be assigned by Net Control as the operation unfolds
- g. In future operations, it might be beneficial to move some of the secondary radio operations out of the radio room to reduce the number of people and the background noise.

7. Emergency Coordinator operations
  - a. The Acting EC should request mutual aid through official channels
    - i. Conversations and e-mails prior to the exercise resulted in the acting EC assuming the mutual aid request had already been addressed. Individuals from the other counties may have been awaiting an official request at the time of the exercise and this may have been the reason we did not receive timely information about the ambulances leaving their pre-staging area.
  - b. The Acting EC should not go to the Incident site unless requested by the Incident Commander.
    - i. Too easy to get tied up in tactical issues – I did.
  - c. The Acting EC should establish an EOC for the Amateur Radio operation.
    - i. Implement Incident Command System and add staff and resources as needed.

In summary, I believe the LCARPSC operation was a success. In my opinion, all members performed extremely well and acted in a very professional manner. Technical problems were minimal and were primarily related to the implementation of new capabilities such as cross-band repeaters and direct packet links. These issues were either resolved or solutions identified that would have permitted their resolution had the exercise continued. The members displayed a great deal of resourcefulness in reacting to the challenges that arose because of the escalation of our role. I am confident that this organization is now capable of responding to any emergency situation that might arise. I also agree with others who have suggested that it would be beneficial to hold additional training exercises for our group. These exercises will enable all members to be cross-trained so that everyone is comfortable with their ability to fill any position to which they might be assigned.

---

## THANKS FROM N8GQ

I would like to take this opportunity to personally commend all of the participants who responded to the call out of Amateurs on Saturday. Every individual came well equipped to participate and to do what ever asked of them.

Were there obstacles to overcome...absolutely. Did we respond to them...most definitely. Was everyone tasked at a level they were happy with? No! Were we as amateurs tasked to the level that we planned for? No! Were we prepared to handle more than we were asked to do? Without any doubt in my mind we could have handled much more. I wish the morning exercise would have continued for at least another hour or two. We planned for much more involvement than we got.

Again thanks to all of those that participated. We learned a lot about ourselves and our abilities and resourcefulness. We have much to be proud of. We have areas that could be improved on and areas that we need to be adjusted. We do need to remind ourselves that we are only the messengers. We are not the decision makers for our served agencies.

73 Steve Lenzion N8GQ

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## LARK SUNDAY NIGHT NET PREAMBLE (for the SECOND time)

And now, the excuse "I don't know the net preamble" is eliminated from the excuse list. How long will it take you to think up a new excuse in its place?

THIS IS THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NET. THIS NET MEETS EVERY SUNDAY EVENING, AT 9PM LOCAL TIME, ON THIS REPEATER. THE PURPOSE OF THIS NET IS TO DEMONSTRATE THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OF THE LARK, PROMOTE GOOD WILL AMONG RADIO AMATEURS, PROVIDE A SERVICE TO THE RADIO AMATEURS WITHIN THE RANGE OF THE REPEATER, AND TO IMPROVE OUR CAPABILITIES IN COMMUNICATIONS.

THIS IS YOUR NET CONTROL STATION FOR THIS EVENING, (your call), MY NAME IS (your name), AND I'M LOCATED AT/IN (location). AT THIS TIME, I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL RADIO AMATEURS TO CHECK IN. PLEASE CALL (your call).

(After list is established, go through list)

ARE THERE ANY OTHER CHECK-INS BEFORE WE BEGIN THE ANNOUNCEMENT SECTION OF THIS NET? IF SO, PLEASE CALL (your call)

(Announcement section consists of any ARRL, FCC, DX, HAMFEST, OR CLUB bulletins)

ARE THERE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE NET?

WE'LL NOW BEGIN THE QUESTION AND ANSWER PORTION OF THE NET. ANY ELECTRONICS OR AMATEUR RADIO QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL NOW. THIS IS (your call).

IS THERE ANY OTHER STATION THAT HAS FURTHER ANY FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR QUESTIONS FOR THE NET?

THE SWAP N' SHOP SECTION OF THE LARK NET IS NOW IN SESSION. IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEM FOR SALE, OR ARE LOOKING FOR AN ITEM, THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO LET ALL OF US KNOW ABOUT IT. ALL ITEMS ADVERTISED ON THIS PORTION OF THE NET ARE TO BE NON-COMMERCIAL, OR PRIVATELY OWNED ITEMS. PLEASE LIMIT YOUR ITEMS FOR SALE TO ONLY AMATEUR RELATED GEAR. THE LARK CLUB, REPEATER TRUSTEE, AND NET CONTROL ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEMS BOUGHT OR SOLD ON THIS NET. AT THIS TIME I WILL STAND BY FOR CALLS WHO WOULD LIKE TO LIST AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE NET. PLEASE CALL (your call).

DO WE HAVE ANY LATE CHECK-INS OR ANY OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE NET?

THIS IS (your call) NET CONTROL FOR THE LIVINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO KLUB NET. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE STATIONS ON FREQUENCY FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION, AND I'M SECURING THIS NET SESSION AT (current local time). 73'S EVERYONE.

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## MS150 BIKE TOUR JULY 16 & 17

Jim,

For LED publication

In the past, Livingston County has run the nets from the EOC for Training. Do we have enough interest this year? If we do, we will need to inform Fred ASAP.

73, Neil K8IT  
31+ Years of Amateur Radio (1974-2005)  
ARRL TTF HSMM WG HF-HSMM PROJECT LEADER  
ARRL BPL ARIA WG  
AEC Livingston County

-----Original Message-----

Subject: 2005 MS150 Bike Tour July 16 & 17

2005 MS150 Bike Tour July 16 & 17

Webmasters/Editors please post the following on your websites/newsletters and talk about it on your nets. Thanks.

The dates have been set for this years MS150 Bike tour, July 16 & 17. We are in need of operators to work the 2 day event. The MS150 event is the largest Amateur Radio public service event in South East Michigan. It requires a minimum of 75+ amateurs, to cover some 200+ miles of route, plus rest stops, and some 20+ mobile units each day. Each amateur that participates in the two day event supplies his or her own equipment, mainly consisting of a 25 Watt or greater 2 meter FM radio, Magnet Mount antenna, cigarette lighter socket Y adapter, and power cords. Food and lodging for Saturday night are provided for by the MS organization. The event starts promptly at 7am Saturday and concludes late Sunday afternoon after the last rider arrives back. The Saturday night entertainment at MSU is a fun time for all.

If you are interested in participating or need any questions answered, please email Fred, W8FSM - fred@moses.bz. We currently have many open assignments for either Saturday, Sunday, and many 2 day assignments as well.

To sign up for the event or get more information visit our website @ <http://ms150.moses.bz>

73, Fred - W8FSM, MS-150 Amateur Radio Communications Manager (ARCM)



Lots of empty other articles.....