



# THE LED

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Howell, Michigan



## MAY 2007

Livingston Amateur  
Radio Klub  
PO Box 283  
Howell, Michigan  
48844

[www.w8lrk.org](http://www.w8lrk.org)

### BOARD MEMBERS

President	Van	N8GVD
Vice-President	Dick	W8KDR
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasurer	Clairus	KC8QQN
Program Director	Jon	KC8VAB
Tech Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
Board Member	Chuck	W8CLK

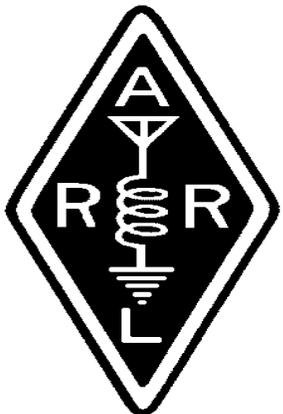
### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

146.680 Repeater	Jim	WB8AZP
LED Editor	Jim	WB8AZP
VE Coordinator	Jim	WB8AZP
PIO Officer	Brandon	KC8YHE
PIO Officer	Jim	N8ENX

### SOCIAL EVENTS

**CLUB CALL IS: W8LRK**

**NEXT KLUB MEETING  
April 12th 7:30PM at the  
EOC, Highlander Way,  
Howell, MI**



## PREZ SAYS

Warmer temperatures and green plants springing up everywhere are real good indications of spring. Time to start Planning those antenna upgrades you've been considering all winter long. This month, in addition to an exciting program from Brandon, KC8YHE, we'll do our final planning for the Memorial Day version of Operation Care.

Come and socialize, learn and discover what's happening with amateur radio in Livingston County, and just spend an evening having a little fun at the EOC.

To be sure, LARK meetings have clearly been interesting over the last several months. We're looking forward to seeing you at the May meeting!

Van N8GVD



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### 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!



**“What you are is revealed by what you do. What you do reveals what you really believe.”**

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## EDITORS COMMENTS



May managed to sneak in...and warmer weather is clearly the trend. Of course, along with it brings the start of a new storm season. Hopefully, you've all been able to take part in training events during the last several months to sharpen your skills and make you better prepared. May also means one important thing to most hams... Hamvention, the largest amateur radio convention just about anywhere, and hopefully, you'll be able to attend. This year, the theme is centered on radio clubs. Speaking of clubs, why not show up and support the largest radio club in Livingston County at the next meeting?

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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?

## VE TESTING

With all the new emphasis on amateur radio, and our local PR efforts, VE testing sessions have been busier than ever. If you want to assist, you need to become a registered VE. Talk with me for details. There is nothing more rewarding than to be able to congratulate a person who has just made it through an exam!

## OPERATION CARE

Support the Klub, and holiday travelers as we once again host Operation Care here in Livingston County! Volunteer a little of your time to help out, and get another chance to meet up with other members who are doing the same. Contact Mary, KC8SER for more details, or show up at the May meeting for more information.

## CODE CERTIFICATION

Many members pride themselves on their ability to send and receive Morse code, even though it is no longer a requirement for an amateur radio license in the United States. The ARRL has launched a pilot program to issue certification sponsored by local VE sessions. The LARK has volunteered to be a part of this program. For more details, contact Dick, W8KDR, or Jim WB8AZP.

## OTHER COMMENTS

Your editor has been traveling more as a result of his "day job" than ever. What this means to you is that he's not as accessible, and often does not have the time to devote to newsletter production. Now more than ever, your editor needs support and help to accomplish the task of creating the LED, and keeping Klub members informed. That includes, but is not limited to, submitting articles in a timely fashion for the newsletter.

Although your editor believes passionately in the power of freedom of speech, he reserves the right to ignore commentary generated by those who refuse to assist. He will however, accept and publish rebuttal to his stance.

Additionally, if you feel really inspired, why not volunteer to replace the editor?

Support the Klub. It's important. Not just to the organization, but to the future of amateur radio as well. If you are not part of the solution, does that simply mean that you're part of the problem?

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## You Know You're a Ham if :

- You buy electrical black tape in ten packs.
- You've stripped wire with your teeth.
- You've told your son that, "One day, all this will be yours", and he doesn't respond.
- You'd rather help a buddy put up a new tower than mow the lawn.
- You've grabbed the wrong end of a soldering iron.
- You start giving out RST reports when you are on the telephone.
- The propagation forecast means far more to you than the local weather forecast.
- The microphone or visual aids at a meeting don't work and you rush up to the front to fix it

- You tell the XYL, when she notices a new rig in the shack, why that has been there for years.
- Your watch is set only to UTC.
- At night, when you pray, it starts off something like: CQ CQ CQ GOD DE (your callsign).
- You ever had to patch your roof after an antenna project.
- Ham radio magazines comprise more than 50% of your bathroom library.
- You ever put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car, just so you could watch her on APRS.
- You and the XYL took a cruise so you could visit the radio room.
- You ever tapped out HI in Morse on your car horn to another ham.
- You ever had an antenna fall down.
- Your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
- You know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.
- You go into the local Radio Shack store and the clerk asks you where something is.

# SHORT TOPICS OF INTEREST

Greg AA5GO has four seats left in his van for the trip Friday the 18th. He is leaving early in the morning with a stop for breakfast and coming home Friday night. You will share the cost of gas and his van is smoke free.

Please contact Greg on the air or e-mail [greg1471@yahoo.com](mailto:greg1471@yahoo.com)

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Here is an interesting story from Jack Richards, W4QVA:

## 2 RESCUED FROM 35' VESSEL "SILABOUT" THANKS TO AMATEUR RADIO

I don't know if you happened by 14.300Mhz anytime in the past 24 hours but if you did you may have heard on the Intercon Net or the Maritime Mobile Service Net the saga of emergency communication that took place since the Sail About a 35 foot sailboat with Gunner and Gretta from Norway on board had its bow damaged and began taking on water approximately 1000 miles in the Pacific off the Central American Coast at approx 5 S, 100 W.

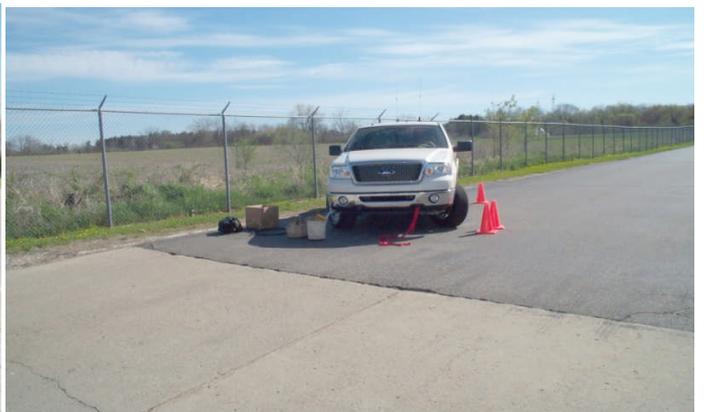
It is the story of how Ernie 6Y5RP on Intercon got the emergency call and information and with the help of the Griffen in Belize and Queen Mary in Honduras managed to get on again, off again contacts during the first few hours to relay to the Coast Guard before the ships EPIRB was recognized by the satellites and there was NO other tracking of the vessel. It is the story of Colleen and her companion aboard the Mokisha about 90 miles from the Sailabout who tried to valiantly to get to the Sailabouts aid but could not fight the incoming wind and seas from a weather system settling in. It is the story of the efforts of the net controllers and participants, and of the maritime interests, commercial and personal who all pulled together to keep several commercial vessels on course to intercept the Sailabout, at drift and flooding, for the hours on end to reach the site. It is the story of vessels arriving and standing by in the darkness to assure the safety in the middle of the night and of two souls being retrieved from a terrible fate by helping hands to be returned to land and eventually to their waiting family.

It is the story of all of this guided not by the awesome power of the US Coast Guard, or the US Military or some multi-national task force, or even by the guidance of GOD (though always on our credit list). NO this is the story of two souls plucked from the fate of the seas guided by one blessed thing ... AMATEUR RADIO!

## TRW Install May 5<sup>th</sup>

Today we took down the old antenna at TRW and put up the new antenna and hard line to the base of the tower where the equipment will be installed later. It took 4 and ½ hours.

Here are some pictures of the crew get a last briefing:



↑ Above is my new “Anchor Vehicle”

That we secure the belay gear to when raising or lowering tools, cable and antennas.

← Brandon and Jon on top taking off the old antenna.