



THE LED

MAY, 2008

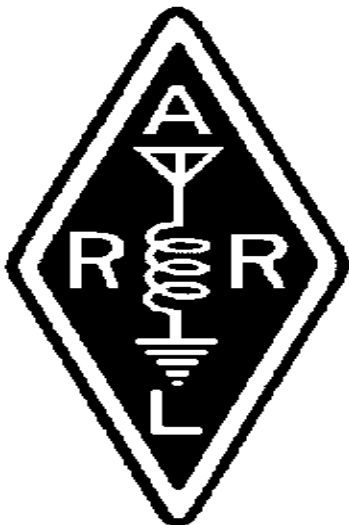
**Livingston Amateur
Radio Klub
PO Box 283
Howell, Michigan
48844**

www.w8lrk.org

NET 146.680
SUNDAY 9PM

CLUB CALL IS: W8LRK

NEXT KLUB MEETING
MAY 8th 7:30PM at the
EOC, Highlander Way, Howell, MI



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

Repeater Trustee Jim WB8AZP
LED Editor Neil K8IT
VE Coordinador W5YI Jim WB8AZP
VE Coordinador ARRL Van N8GVD
PIO Officer Brandon KC8YHE
PIO Officer Jim N8ENX
Webmaster 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.

Please feel free to use them with good Amateur Operating Practices and don't forget to attend our meetings!

PREZ SAYS

Operation Care is right around the corner with a little help from everyone, no one should have to sacrifice his or her entire weekend. With that in mind the sign up list is being circulated so please sign up early.



Elections will be at the May Meeting, this year up for election will be:

Vice President
Treasurer
Technical Coordinator
Director/ Member At Large

Our ability of providing Emergency Communications to served agencies is a very important part of the spirit of Amateur Radio. I want to thank those that have stepped up taken the required courses and training and participated in the exercises. But of course we can do better and waiting until we are needed isn't the time to decide you want to help. I would encourage all Radio Amateurs to become more involved in ARES and RACES take the required classes and making time to participate in the exercises. Having the training is as important as having the ability to do the job. To learn more visit www.n8eoc.org, www.w8lrk.org click on the ARES RACES tab or contact our EC or any of the AEC'S. .

Looking forward to seeing you at the next Klub event. Van, N8GVD

LARK SOCIAL

LARK Dinner before the Meeting 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!

LARK Meeting Minutes 4-10-08

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTIONS

OUR SPEAKERS WERE GREG WB8LZB TALKING ON MORSE CODE KEYS AND PADDLES.

ALSO WES GILSON WHO TOLD ABOUT MILITARY RADIOS.
SEC REPORT AS IN THE LED
TREAS NONE
BRUCES: NOTES SKYWARN APRIL 15 AT 7PM @HINEY RD-- M23 RDS.
A THANK YOU TO THE TECH COMMITTEE FOR THEIR WORK ON THE D STAR RADIOS.
JON WILL HAVE A PROGRAM ON THE D STAR RADIO AT A LATER DATE.
NEIL; NOTHING ON THE NEWSLETTER.
JIM HAD A 100 METAL BOXES GIVEN TO HIM FOR A PROJECT. THE COMMITTEE IS TRYING TO GET SOME THINGS DONE ON THE REPEATER.
LES HASW NOTHING NEW.
OPERATION CARE NO PAPER WORK FROM THE STATE YET . PAT AND DICK WENT OUT TO THE SITE TOLOOK IT OVER. YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO SIGN UP ,CONTACT DICK.
NEW BUSINESS NOMINATIONS ARE:
VP DICK W8KDR-----PAT W8LNO
TREAS PAT W8LNO
TECH CORDINATOR LESW8MSP-----JON KC8VAB
MEMBER AT LARGE JOHN KD8CCR
THE REVIEW COMMITTEE CONCIIST OF VAN, DOUG AND IRENE(CHARLIE WILLFILL IN IF IRENE CAN,T.
FEILD DAY WILL BE HELD AT THE BALLOON FEST THEY WILL NEED ALOT OF HELP.THE DATE IS JUNE28TH 29TH.
DAY CAMP PAT ASKED IF THIER WAS ANYONE W2HO WOULD HELP THE KIDS WORK ON THIER BADGES. CONTACT PAT.
RAFFLE PAPER WORK, CLAIRUS WILL BE MEETING WITH A STATE REP TO DISCUSS ALL OF THE INS ANDOUTS. WE WANT TO HAVE ALL OF OUR PAPER WORK UP TO DATE.
50/50 WAS WON BY WES , WHO DONATED IT BACK TO THE FUND.
MAC MADE AMOTION TO ADJURN , BOB SECONDED MOTION PASSED
SUBMITTED BY MARY KC8SER

LARK BOARD Meeting Minutes 3-20-08

ATTENDING:JON, JIM, CLAIRUS ,CHUCK DICK,,VAN, MARY.
VISITORS:PAT, NEIL ,JERRY.
SECREPORT AS IN THE LED.
TREAS REPORT NONE .
JON HAS SPEAKERS LINED UP FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.
DICKS, NOTES:HAVING KAS BACK FOR ANOTHER TALK.
MENTIONED AN IDEA FOR THE BOXES THAT WERE DONATED TO THE KLUB.
BALLOONFEST
MAILING LIST
CLAIRUS WILL BE MEETING WITH A STATE REP TO GO OVER THE RULES FOR HAVING A RAFFLE, 50/50 AND ECT.THE KLUB HADTO COME UP WITH A LIST TO SEE HOW CLOSE WE COME TO THEIR RULES.
PAT ASKED FOR SOME HELPING THE BOY SCOUTS EARNING THEIR BADGE RADIO COMUNCATIONS.
CHUCK MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN, CLAIRUS SECONED MOTIONPASSED WITH TWO OPOSING.
SUBMITTEDBY MARY KC8SER

MAY 2008 SWAPS

16-18 May 2008	Dayton Hamvention Dayton Amateur Radio Association http://www.hamvention.org Contact: PO Box 964 Dayton, OH 45401 Phone: 937-276-6930 Dayton, OH Hara Arena Div: Great Lakes Sect: Ohio	Dayton, OH Hara Arena Div: Great Lakes Sect: Ohio
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HOWARD LEARNS THE HARD WAY TO ADOPT A LESS LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM "BOAT ANCHOR."

cartoon reproduced with permission from www.qsl.net/k4adl

It's Antenna Time

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU
MI Affiliated Club Coordinator

Here in Michigan, the daffodils are blooming and the birds are singing. That means only one thing--it's antenna time! Since my lot is a city lot and not really suited to towers, I mostly play around with wire antennas. Currently, I have a random wire for 80m, a wire ground plane for 20m, and a 40m/30m "fan dipole" that also loads up on 15m and 10m. This year, I want to experiment with two new wire antennas--a horizontal loop and Windom antenna.

The "Loop Skywire"

The concepts behind the full-wave loop antenna have been known for many years, but the antenna has become more popular after the publication of the article, "The Loop Skywire" in the November 1985 issue of QST. This article is available as a PDF from the ARRL website, if you are a member (<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/tis/info/pdf/8511020.pdf>). A lot more information is available on Internet. Just Google "loop skywire," and you'll find hundreds of references.

Basically, the antenna is a full-wave loop of wire for the lowest band that you wish to operate. For 80m, that would be about 272 feet. For 40m, the length will be 136 feet.

Ideally, you'd like to set up the loop so that the area inside the loop is at its maximum. This occurs when the loop is a circle. Unfortunately, that's usually impractical. From a practical point of view, most guys shoot for a square configuration using four supports.

Another consideration is how to feed the antenna. The Loop Skywire article calls for a coax feedline, but the practice these days seems to favor ladder line. The reason for this is that the SWR on bands higher in frequency than the band for which the antenna was cut can be quite high. Coax is quite lossy when the SWR is high, but that's not the case with ladder line.

How does it perform? Well, it's been my experience that guys with loop antennas often have the strongest signals here at KB6NU. And they seem to get through even when band conditions are poor. Guys who use them also report that they are great DX antennas as well. So, all things considered, it sounds like it's worth a shot.

The Windom Antenna

The Windom antenna is an antenna that I've just become familiar with. It's intriguing because, like the loop antenna, it is also a multi-band antenna.

The Windom is a half-wavelength antenna, but instead of feeding the antenna in the middle as you would a dipole antenna, you feed it about 1/3 of the way from one of the ends. At this point, the feedpoint impedance is about 200 ohms. With a 4:1 balun, you can feed it with 50-ohm coax.

The interesting thing about this antenna is that the feedpoint impedance is 200 ohms not only on the fundamental frequency, but it's close to 200 ohms on all

harmonics of that frequency. So an antenna cut for 40m, will also have a feedpoint impedance close to 200 ohms on 20m, 15m, and 10m.

You do need a 4:1 balun for this antenna to operate properly. Fortunately, these are not difficult to make. I made one a couple of years ago, just for fun (<http://kb6nu.com/even-more-fun-with-baluns/>). Now, I have an application for it!

There's all kinds of information on the Net about the Windom antenna as well. One of the Web pages I found most useful was written by W8JI (http://www.w8ji.com/windom_off_center_fed.htm).

I certainly have my hands full this antenna season. Whatever you decide to put up, remember to be safe.

When Dan isn't thinking about antennas, he's operating CW on the HF bands or teaching ham radio classes. He's just published a printed version of his No-Nonsense Tech Class Study Guide. See his blog, www.kb6nu.com, for more details. You can e-mail Dan at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

MS150 – HELP NEEDED Act Now!

The dates have been set for this year's Mid-Michigan MS150 Bike tour, July 12 & 13. 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 VHF/UHF Mobile 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 7 am 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)

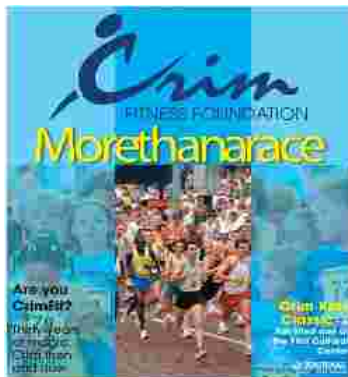


LARK Coming Events



May 3 – LARK Breakfast, 8 am at the Crossroads Grill M-59 at Michigan Ave/Oak Grove Road (west end of the Kroger Plaza in Howell).

May 8 – LARK Monthly Meeting, 7 pm at the EOC, 300 South Highlander Way, Howell. The Program will be a presentation on the use of ATV in support of the Crim Race in Flint each year. There will be a live ATV station set up. Speaker will be Jerry Baker the (PIO) Public Information Officer of GCARES.



May 13 – VE Amateur License testing, 7 pm at the EOC, 300 South Highlander Way, Howell. Including W5YI FCC Amateur License, Code Proficiency and ARECC testing. Contact Jim WB8AZP at 810-220-2134 or e-mail wb8azp@arrl.net . Walk-ins are welcome.

May 17 – LARK Breakfast, 8 am at the Crossroads Grill M-59 at Michigan Ave/Oak Grove Road (west end of the Kroger Plaza in Howell).

June 7 - LARK Breakfast, 8 am at the Crossroads Grill M-59 at Michigan Ave/Oak Grove Road (west end of the Kroger Plaza in Howell).

June 10 – VE Amateur License testing, 7 pm at the EOC, 300 South Highlander Way, Howell. Including W5YI FCC Amateur License, Code

Proficiency and ARECC testing. Contact Jim WB8AZP at 810-220-2134 or e-mail wb8azp@arrl.net . Walk-ins are welcome.

June 12 – LARK Monthly Meeting, 7 pm at the EOC, 300 South Highlander Way, Howell. The Program will be a presentation on basic first aid by KD8CCR

June 21 - LARK Breakfast, 8 am at the Crossroads Grill M-59 at Michigan Ave/Oak Grove Road (west end of the Kroger Plaza in Howell.

June 27-29 - BALLOON FESTIVAL WEEKEND – HELP NEEDED!
(Contact: John Waters if you can help)

June 28-29 - FIELD DAY WEEKEND – BAND CAPTAINS NEEDED!
(Editor's Note: Let's get competitive for a change!)

To the LARK Members:

Your thoughtfulness was a real lift! We want to thank you for thinking of us when your Amateur Radio Klub was looking for a cause. We are grateful and proud to live in this community, the people are outstanding.

Darlene and Kevin Burke

CUB SCOUTS – HELP NEEDED Act Now!

Last month at the LARK meeting at the Livingston County EOC, I was approached by Lonnie Sumter, Cub Day Camp Associate Director about having some Amateur Radio folks do a station at Cub Day Camp in Livingston County in June.

This is a 3 day event held June 18-20, where small groups of 10-15 scouts rotate among 12 stations that provide different activities, learning opportunities or just plain fun for about 200 scouts. Each activity period is about 45 minutes, and then the group moves on to the next station. Each group then has the opportunity to stop at each of the 12 stations over the 3 day period. The age group is between 7-11 years

Groups begin in the morning at about 9am, and conclude in the afternoon between 2 and 3. Friday that week has 2 morning sessions, and the remainder of Friday is reserved in case of inclement weather causes cancellations in the previous 2 days.

Simplicity is the rule here. We have limited time and a pretty young audience. The more "hands on" we can be the better, with pocket stuffer give-aways all the better.

What we are looking for is something like this:

1. 1 (or more) HF stations for demonstrations and 3rd party communication
2. QSL Card display, as many countries/states/counties/townships as possible.
3. Jack Walker has a great display of posters that we used at Camp Munhackie, that we could set up as visual aids as an Introduction to Radio.
4. Some way to demonstrate how voice is converted to electrons with an oscilloscope.
5. Code demonstration with a code generator, and key set. Dan has volunteered to bring the set he uses at the Hands On Museum.
6. Once in my past, we did a crystal radio set with some very basic parts, including an empty toilet paper roll. I am trying to reconstruct that set.
7. I have considered a fox hunt to find a hidden transmitter, but I am not sure what that would do, or how it would work.
8. Hand held's for VHF/UHF communications, most likely simplex on 146.520 or 446.000

I am sure the space we need will be minimal, unless we go antenna crazy. I am in contact with Lonnie, and also with the Camp Director Ralf Walter. They are requesting we let them know what we need in terms of resources and space.

Unlike the Merit badge day at Camp Munhackie, there are no 'awards' for the kids, but I thought that I would print up a small card or certificate for attending the station. I will clear this with Lonnie and Ralf.

We will need to provide staffing adequate to the 10-15 scout group size for each of the sessions in the morning (3) and afternoon (2) for each of the full days, and (2) sessions on Friday morning. I am thinking that 2-3 HAMS could participate in each session. I am planning on being there all 3 days.

I am pretty sure we will have some basic shelter provided by the scouts, but the ARROW trailer may help out here as well. Lunch/meals are on your own. The scouts have opted not to serve any meals to avoid any difficulties with Health officials.

Dan Romanchik of ARROW and Van VanDam from the LARK have already volunteered. I know the daytime hours are difficult for folks, but in every case where I have worked with scouting in the past, it has been great fun, and a wonderful learning opportunity for everyone. If you can help out for a couple of hours, it would be wonderful.

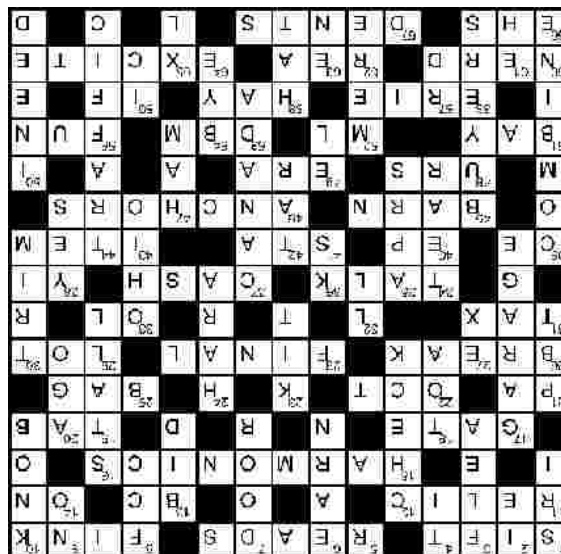
Please contact me if you have any ideas, questions, thoughts or would like to participate.
Email: patrick@comcast.net Cell: (810) 923-4447

Thanks

Yours in Scouting and '73

Patrick W8LNO

LED FUN! (April 2008 solution)



LOGIC TIME!

Jim WB8AZP handed out two firework type fuses and a lighter at a Klub meeting. One fuse was 5 inches long, the other was 8 inches long. Jim stated that both fuses would burn for one hour. He also stated that the fuses where not linear with respect to time over their length. He then asked, How do I know when 45 minutes elapsed using nothing but the fuses and the lighter. Email k8it@cac.net with your answer

EDITORS NOTES!

Mary KC8SCR requested at the last meeting, that her minutes not be formatted. Also your editor is moving out of state, so I need a volunteer to take over the LED. Email k8it@cac.net