



THE LED

October 2013

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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, October 10th, at 7:30PM
EOC, 300 S. Highlander Way
Howell, MI**



Jim's Jive

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Jim	K8JK
Vice-President	Van	N8GVD
Secretary	Karen	KB8AKC
Treasurer	Patrick	W8LNO
Program Manager	Bob	K8VQC
Tech Director	Les	W8MSP
Director	John	KD8CCR

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

Repeater Trustee	Jim	K8JK
LED Editor	Michelle	KD8GWX
VE Coordinador	Jim	K8JK
PIO Officer		
PIO Officer		
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.

You can blame me for the colder temperatures, the rain, and our hasty entrance into Fall. Let me explain. I use Jim's Excellent Reporting Kit (JERK) for all my weather requirements, and I am convinced that my forecasting is every bit as accurate as anything else. Based on my tool, which largely relies on the fact that I need to do fall yard work, and modify one of my antennas, and that I haven't even thought about changing over the yard tractor for winter weather, I predict a very wet and cold start to fall, followed by more snow than you can imagine.

K8RJE and I spent a delightful September in and around the United Kingdom. After spending that much time out of the country, it was great to get back home. Because of the locations we traveled in, there were actually several times when the only communications tool we had was ham radio. We met some great UK hams on several of the local repeaters, and even met a few other US travelers who had also packed their handheld radios.

I didn't find out until 3 days after the LARK radio raffle that I had one the KX3! Needless to say, I was quite surprised. (Although I understand that some of the members were asking that we throw out my ticket and draw again). The real winner is the club, as we use the profits from the radio raffle to support our activities, and stave off a dues increase. Thanks to all who participated.

Because I was out of town for most of the month, Van N8GVD, Bob K8VQC, Pat W8LNO, and Les N8MSP took care of most of the things I would have done. I appreciate their support.

Fall also signals the start of the busy holiday season. If we're going to have any sort of gathering of club members, planning probably needs to begin now. The executive team has far too many things on the agenda to deal with this activity, so we'll be looking to club members to take on the responsibility. If there is a desire to have a holiday dinner, I'm confident we'll have someone volunteer to lead the effort.

Fall also signals the start of another great amateur radio flea market schedule. Michigan has quite a few fall/winter ham swap events. Here's a picture of Mike N8MSA, explaining Software Defined Radio to a couple of Michigan hams.



Jim's Jive continued

I understand that our old club member and friend, David Schwein KE8Z, passed away on September 10th. Dave was 75 years young. Although he wasn't as active in amateur radio in recent years, Dave was a great supporter of the club and of emergency preparedness within Livingston County. Here's a rather blurry photo of David during his 69th birthday party.



Hopefully, you're all getting excited about our next build event. I know that Bob K8VQC, has planned a few presentations to help set the stage for our SWR bridge event. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting.

73, Jim K8JK



LARK General (9-12-2013) & Board (8-15-2013) Meeting Minutes

After reciting the pledge of allegiance, Vice President George Van Dam N8GVD called the meeting to order at: 7:31 p.m.

Members and guests present: Karen Butler KB8AKC, Les Butler W8MSP, Kay Alexander K8KAY, Mike Alexander N8MSA, Bob Hitchens K8VQC, Mark Sharef WQ8S, John Waters KD8CCR, Ralph Mc Christy N8RBA, Issac Mc Christy, Irene Mc Christy KA8MVW, Charlie Mc Christy KB8OVJ, Tom Rozek AB8XU, Don Swetzig KD8NNU, John Harris, KC8VAB, Robert Jagow KD8TBT, Larry Kube KD8VKW, George Verciuc W8CO, Steve Smith N8AR, Nolan Rollo KD8VDP, Don Wirt KA8GOU, John Wirt KD8SWT, Jim Merrill W8JPM, Fred Lindberg KD8LNK, Jeremy aka John Waters son inlaw.

Minutes were read and Mac N8RBA moved to accept, seconded by Mark Sharef WQ8S move to accept . Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Pat Shannon W8LNO Operations Fund has a balance of \$ 1619.12 and the Emergency Fund \$3547.79 Mac N8RBA moved to accept Seconded by Les W8MSP motion carried

Program Director Bob Hitchens K8QVS: gave a presentation on transmission lines. Antenna tuners will be the topic of discussion at the October meeting.

ARES/CERT: Bob Hitchens reported on behalf of Bruce Pollack, we had one CERT activation requested by Brighton PD for traffic control at the Brighton High Special event.

Technical Director Les Butler W8MSP: reported a problem at the Dstar repeater that has been happening occasionally believed to be A modem problem

Repeater Trustee Jim Kvochick: no report .

LED Editor Michelle Roderick KD8GWX: no report

Member at Large, John Waters, KD8CCR: reported that they installed antennas at the Oceola township tower and at this time only two antennas are functional the other antenna will need to be replaced, the lines are there any ready to go once we can get a certified climber to install a new antenna. John thanked Bob Hitchens for coming out and helping at the site.

OLD BUSINESS: Nolan is still working on the balloon launch

NEW BUSINESS: Hartland women's club is requesting the Wouxun radios for use at their event again this year to be held the first Saturday in December. Tabled until Bruce returns.

Ralph moved to adjourn, seconded by, Charlie.

LARK General (9-12-2013) continued ...

Radio raffle drawing: the radio was won by K8JK, Jim Kvochick

50/50 raffle was won George Van Dam \$41 to the winner and \$41 to the club.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Butler, recording secretary

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Board (9-19-2013) Meeting Minutes

Board Minutes not included at this time.

Finance Report

OPENING BALANCE OPERATIONS FUND

August 29, 2013 ----- \$1626.02

INCOME

Dues	\$40.00
Raffle	\$425.00

ACCOUNT BALANCE \$2091.02

EXPENSES

Maintenance fee	(\$4.95)
Maintenance fee	(\$1.95)
Repeater Phone	(\$0)
(37.86 paid by club member)	

NEW ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$2084.12
1000 CD	\$1390.59
500 CD	\$668.91

TOTAL BALANCE September 30, 2013	<u>\$4143.62</u>
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OPENING BALANCE FROM EMG FUND AS OF August 29, 2013-----	\$4448.54
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INCOME	
ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$4448.54

EXPENSES	
SWR Bridge Kits	(\$898.80)
Maintenance Fee	(\$1.95)

NEW BALANCE as of September 30, 2013	<u>\$3547.79</u>
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Thought for the day ...

“The first step in the acquisition of wisdom is silence, the second listening, the third memory, the fourth practice, the fifth teaching others.”

- Solomon Ibn Gabriol

The FCC Shutdown at a Glance!

The FCC remains closed, as the Federal Government shutdown continues. *All* FCC websites, including the Universal Licensing System (ULS), are offline until further notice. The Commission's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, facility, which handles all Amateur Radio licensing transactions, is shuttered as well. Here's how the FCC shutdown will affect Amateur Radio licensing application transactions and VE-administered examination sessions. We will update this list as new information becomes available.

- The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (**VEC**) is open and conducting business as usual, within the constraints of the FCC shutdown (tel 860-594-0300).
- No VECs are able to file *any* applications with the FCC, nor can they research anything on an FCC online database.
- The FCC CORES registration system to obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN) is unavailable during the shutdown.
- During the period that Commission's electronic filing systems are unavailable, electronic filing requirements *cannot* be satisfied through manual filing, with or without a request for waiver of filing requirements.
- The ARRL does not expect the FCC to resume granting any Amateur Radio-related applications until it is again open for business (in other words, the FCC likely will not reopen *immediately* after shutdown ends; it will take some time to ramp up operations). If the FCC is unable to restore electronic filing systems on the day the government reopens, it may issue a *Public Notice* further extending filing deadlines.
- Volunteer Examination sessions may proceed as scheduled, at the discretion of the VEC and session sponsors; examination applicants should be made aware that application processing will be delayed.
- The ARRL VEC will receive and hold for filing any exam session applications and paperwork. VE session paperwork requires batch filing and an FCC filing number, but *no* VECs can file any applications or paperwork until the FCC reopens.
- Radio amateurs whose licenses expire between October 1 and the day after normal FCC operations resume may continue to operate until then, even if they have not yet filed a renewal application. Pending an official FCC announcement that states otherwise, applicants should apply for renewal no later than one day after the FCC reopens, if they want to continue to operate.
- Amateur Radio applicants who passed an upgrade examination may still operate with their new privileges, even if their applications have not been accepted for filing by the FCC. Applicants must have a *Certificate of Completion of Examination (CSCE)*, issued by the VE team. Follow the identification instructions on the back of the *CSCE*.
- If the closing date for comments on an open FCC proceeding falls during the shutdown, comments will be considered timely filed on the day after the Commission reopens for business.
- The FCC's filing window, mail room, and all electronic filing systems will be unavailable until normal government operations resume. This unavailability of systems will impact the work of any entities requiring access to such systems/information, such as VECs and individual filers.
- Materials sent to the Commission by private delivery services may be returned to the sender. In this event, any materials will be due on the business day following the day of return to normal operations. (For example, if the shutdown stalemate ends on a Monday, the FCC would resume normal operations on Tuesday morning, and filings would be due on Wednesday.)
- The ARRL VEC is still processing International Amateur Radio Permit (**IARP**) applications.
- It is still possible to reserve a 1 × 1 **special event call sign**, since that is not an FCC function.
- Only one "senior management official" in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau — which oversees Amateur Radio — was scheduled to be on duty for the extent of the shutdown.
- The FCC refers anyone calling regarding an emergency "affecting the safety of life or the protection of property" to a Washington, DC, number, 202-418-1122, or an **e-mail address**.

Upcoming Hamfests ...

Hamfest/Convention

10/20/2013 | [Kalamazoo HamFest and Computer Expo 2013](#)

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club (KARC) & Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team (SMART)

Website: <http://KalamazooHamFest.com>

Hamfest/Convention

11/16/2013 | [Indiana State Convention \(Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo\)](#)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, michelle.roderick@redcross.org
734-717-5660 Cell 734-864-6623 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 LED a success.

October 2013

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

Future events:

November 2013

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