



THE LED

March 2009

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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 12th, at 7:30PM
EOC, 300 S. Highlander Way
Howell, MI**



BOARD MEMBERS

President	Van	N8GVD
Vice-President	Clairus	KC8QQN
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.

PREZ SAYS

The LED is back! Thanks Michelle for taking on the task.

Skywarn training is just around the corner, just because you had it before doesn't mean you can't learn more. Each class I learn a little more. Repetition you know. So if you can't make the class in Livingston County make it a point to make a class in one of the surrounding Counties. Classes are listed on the NWS Web site.

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



Joke of the day ...

A couple of young boys were fishing at their special pond off the beaten track. All of a sudden, the Game Warden jumped out of the bushes. Immediately, one of the boys threw his rod down and started running through the woods like a bat out of hell. The Game Warden was hot on his heels. After about a half mile, the young man stopped and stooped over with his hands on his thighs to catch his breath, so the Game Warden finally caught up to him. "Let's see yer fishin' license, Boy!" the Warden gasped. With that, the boy pulled out his wallet and gave the Game Warden a valid fishing license. "Well, son," said the Game Warden, "you must be about as dumb as a box of rocks! You don't have to run from me if you have a valid license!" "Yes, sir," replied the young guy, "but my friend back there, well, he don't have one."

LARK Meeting Minutes 2-12-2009

The meeting was called to order by Van N8GVD.

The Pledge was recited.

John KC8VAB gave a talk on "Amateur Monitoring of Emergency Frequencies".

Sec Report Chuck W9CLK made a motion to accept, Pat W9LNO seconded it.

Treasure Report accepted as passed out.

VE Session, there was one that passed.

Technical Director projects are continuing.

Public Relations nothing.

Repeater has some minor problems.

Website nothing.

Vice President nothing.

Old business:

- Awards dinner is Feb 15th at the American Legion Hall on Grand River. 1pm-5pm, two dishes to pass.
- LED, Michelle KD8GWX has agreed to take it over. Thank you.

New Business:

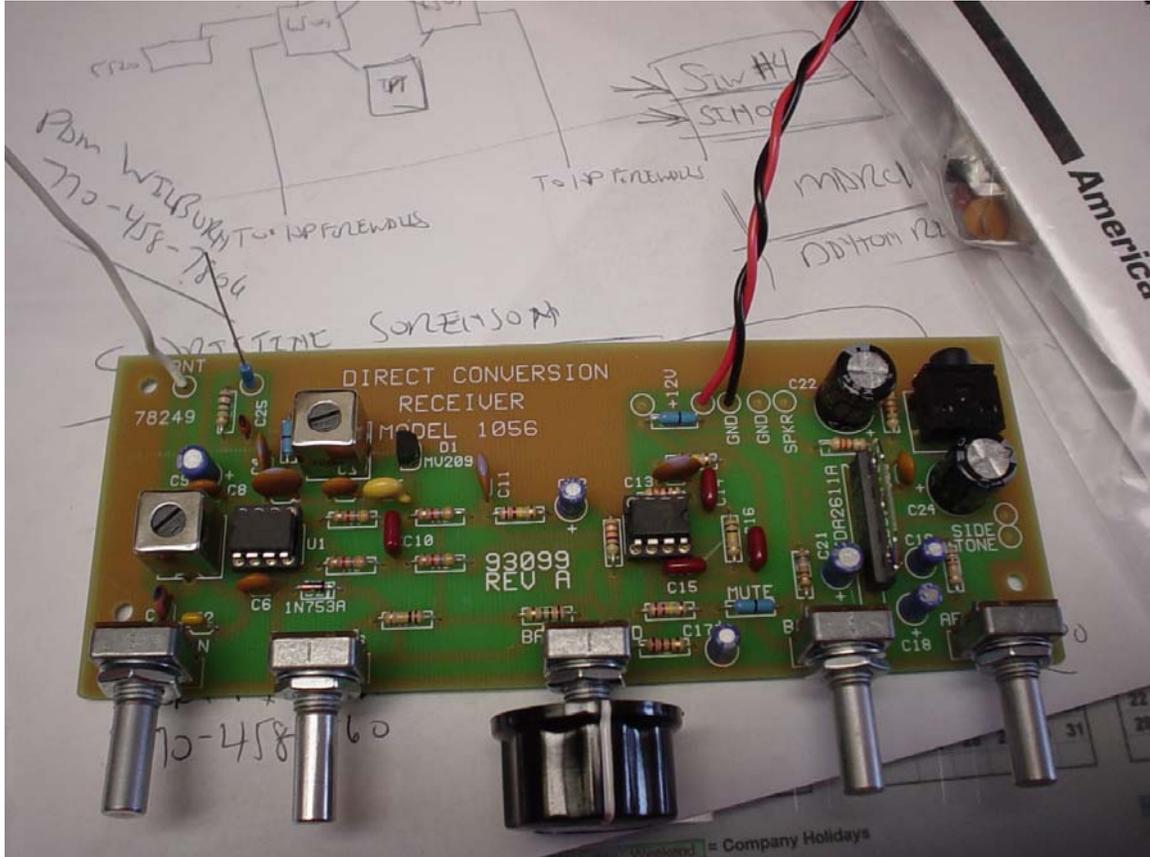
- Lark will help the Boy Scouts.
- Sky Warn March 23 @ 7pm in Hamburg at the Fire Hall.
- 50/50 was won by Jim WB8AZP.
- Jon KC8VAB made motion to adjourn, Zac KC8YHU seconded.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
MARY KC8SER

Thought for the day ...

"Never settle for someone else's definition of who you can be."

Project for March Meeting



TEN TEC DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVER KIT BUILD CLUB EVENT!

As part of our continuing effort to explore many of the fun aspects of radio, your LARK technical team, under the direction of Les, W8MSP, has selected a fun and simple to assemble shortwave direct conversion receiver kit from Ten Tec. The model 1056 receiver kit is a wonderful entry level receiver with many advanced features. The kit comes with all the components required to operate on many of the amateur and shortwave bands, although we've selected 40 meters for our group project.

The kits are intended to be used during our group build at the next LARK meeting, therefore, priority is assigned to those members attending the meeting who intend to participate in the event. Kits are allocated in the following manner:

- PAID LARK members, in attendance, participating in the evening build each receive one kit.
- PAID LARK FAMILY members, in attendance, participating in the evening build each receive one kit.
- If any kits remain, other paid members may purchase them for \$30.00, payable to the club.

LARK technical team members have already assembled several of the kits, and will be on hand to lend technical assistance. If you are new to soldering, or would like a little practice during the

evening, before you dive into your kit, there will also be some practice boards available, along with helping hands to get you going! Remember, this is supposed to be fun!
You will want to bring with you:

- Side Cutters (suitable for small electronic parts)
- Needle Nose Pliers (Again, pliers meant for removing $\frac{3}{4}$ inch fittings may not be helpful)
- Soldering Iron (we will have a small number of irons available, but don't count on it. Many of you have your own iron, bring it, please!)
- Reading glasses, if needed
- Any other tools or soldering aids you might require.

The Klub is providing:

- The Ten Tec Kit
- Extra add on parts that are nice to have
- Solder
- Expertise and Elmering
- (probably not the meat, but you never know!)
- Testing and Tune Up resources

This will be a fun time! If you're not planning on building one, come anyway and watch the fun! We can always use a photographer or additional helpers! See you at the next LARK meeting, for our kit assembly extravaganza!

Submitted by: Jim WB8AZP

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

For the 3rd consecutive year, I have been privileged to participate as an operator for "Jamboree on the Air" at the Kensington Campground area off Dawson and Milford Roads. I worked with N8FM, KE8HR, KD8GWX and a number of other hams at the Clinton River Council, Ottawa District camporee using the call WB2BSA. When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year more than 400,000 Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home.

This weekend of October 18-19, 2008, was no exception. Scouts had the opportunity to earn the Radio Merit Badge and make contacts from around the world on 2M, 70cm and 20 to 80 meters. Contacts ranged from Vancouver Island to Portugal, mostly phone, with a smattering of CW. We also were able to listen to, and watch, 2 passes of the International space station on a 3 inch portable tv!!

JOTA is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of ham radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years.

With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.

JOTA is held the third weekend in October of each year. JOTA takes place starting Saturday at 0000 hours local time (12:00 AM) to Sunday, 23.59 hours local time (12:00 PM), though some activity continues over from Friday to Monday to take advantage of long distance (DX) time differences.

Radio operators run their stations in accordance with their national licensing regulations. For a [review of control operator rules](#) consult the ARRL website.

Stations calling "CQ Jamboree," brought many answering stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. There are a number of recommended frequencies that stations use, World Scout Frequencies. To avoid congestion, many use close-by frequencies.

JOTA is not a contest. The idea is not to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend.

All participating groups are asked to send a report of their activities to their National JOTA Organizer (NJO) and to ARRL HQ after the event. See addresses listed elsewhere in this document. NJOs forward national JOTA reports to the World Scout Bureau for the World JOTA Report.

Although the worldwide JOTA is organized in October, Scouts can meet on the air at other times during the year. Regular Scout nets (a pre-arranged time and frequency when operators meet) are organized nationally or regionally. An updated list of these nets can always be found in the latest *World JOTA Report*, which is published by the World Scout Bureau.

Each licensed Amateur Radio station has a unique identifier known as a "call sign." The first letters specify the country. Here are call signs of well-known stations that can often be contacted:

- **HB9S** -- World Scout Bureau, Geneva Switzerland
- **K2BSA** -- Boy Scouts of America National Office, Dallas TX
- **JA1YSS** -- Boy Scouts of Nippon National Office, Tokyo Japan
- **PA6JAM** -- Scouting Nederland National Station, Sassenheim Netherlands
- **5Z4KSA** -- The Kenya Scouts Assoc. Paxtu Station, Nyeri Kenya
- **VK1BP** -- The Scout Assn. of Australia National Station, Canberra Australia
- **GB2GP** -- The Scout Assn., Gilwell Park, London UK
- **XE1ASM** -- Boy Scouts of Mexico
- **DX1BSP** -- Boy Scouts of Philippines
- **TF3JAM** -- Scouts of Iceland

What a great time this is. Our participation in events involving young people can pay off with new hams and club members on the bands for the future. I did not become a ham for 40 years after being exposed, but I never forgot the fun I had, nor the generosity of many of the Hams I met as a young man. We never know where our seeds will take root.

Thanks to the ARRL for much of the content of this article. See Pat, W8LNO if you are interested in Scouting activities involving Radio or for more information about scouting.

Submitted by: Patrick W8LNO

A Note from a Neighbor ...

Dear Lark Members,

I am Mark Mark Sharef WQ8S/AAV5QK. I am a neighbor of yours. I am also a member of the Michigan Army Military Affiliate Radio System also known as MARS. I am contacting you to invite you to join with me to assist in supporting our nation's homeland security and volunteer disaster support communication needs.

The Michigan Army MARS program is open to all classes of amateur radio operator license holders. We use radio frequencies outside of the normal amateur bands to provide emergency communications for the Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Safety Administration and many other governmental organizations and agencies. We do not replace RACES/ARES in any way. In fact, many of our members are also members of the RACES/ARES organizations and even members of the ARRL sponsored National Traffic System. We are the providers of long distance communications of choice for nearly all governmental organizations.

We offer the opportunity to use and experiment with the many new modes such as MT-63, OLIVIA and PACTOR as well as the more traditional SSB and, yes, even CW modes. In fact, we maintain an automated PACTOR system that reaches from Qatar to Guam while spanning the entire United States. All this on government HF and VHF frequencies not available to amateurs who are not members of MARS.

The modifications to your existing equipment are very minimal in most cases. Technical help will be provided as will the training necessary for you to operate and be every bit the professional that is the hallmark of a MARS member.

Information on the Michigan Army MARS program and an application form can be found at <http://www.miarmymars.com> or <http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars/or> you may contact me directly to discuss this unique and rewarding aspect of amateur radio.

I look forward to talking to you and working with you on the MARS frequencies.

Sincerely and 73,

Mark Sharef /WQ8S/AAV5QK msharef@peoplepc.com

Paul Harvey

Born Sept 4 1918 Died February 28, 2009, at the age of 90
May He Rest in Peace and His famous Sign Off "GOOD DAY"

"Paul Harvey Plugs Ham Radio's Emergency Communications Role"
Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey on March 19 offered some kind words for amateur radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program: "America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies -- amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes. After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public." The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence -- typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging -- apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

For further information, see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Harvey

Submitted by Jim WB8AZP

DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER ...

Skywarn training is March 23, 2009 at 7pm at Hamburg Fire Hall, M36 and Pettysville Rd.

Submitted by - Bruce Pollock, N8WWX, EC Livingston County

Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, michelle.Roderick@wc-redcross.org
734-717-5660 Cell
734-260-7893 ARC Cell
734-677-6066 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 March 2009 LED a success!

Merit System for Increasing Club Member Involvement

20 points = A \$20 lottery ticket

Attend a club meeting = 2 points (You must be a current paid member in good standing)

Attend a club breakfast = 1 point (You must be a current paid member in good standing)

Attend a club event = 2 points (You must be a current paid member in good standing)

Work a club event = 3 points (You must be a current paid member in good standing)

Volunteer to be a committee Chair = 5 points (You must be a current paid member in good standing)

Sign up a new club member = 5 points (You must be a current paid member in good standing) Your sign up must be accepted and pay his dues. (Not valid for members renewing their membership)

Become a club member = 3 points (Not valid for members renewing their membership)

The board reserves the right to give a volunteer of a committee chair an extra 3 points. This is based on the difficulty of the committee chair you volunteer for. This will require at least 2 board members to approve.

Board Members and their families do not qualify for the points.

Once you reach 20 points you can redeem them for a \$20 raffle ticket

Limit 1 free ticket per person (Family memberships qualify for one ticket only)

Points are not transferrable

Points are for this raffle only

If this program is offered for the next raffle all points will be reset to 0.

Points are for a raffle ticket only, they cannot be redeemed for cash

Final words from the Vice President ...

It is with deepest regret that I have to shorten my stay as Vice President. As some of you know I have had some health issues and it is time to take care of them. I had major surgery on Thursday, February 26th and I am doing very well. My pain scale is low and things are progressing very well. I am still not sure if I will be able to make the meeting this month but will do my best. Keep me in your thoughts and prayers as I lay around and do nothing. LOL

88 and 73 to all

Clairus Keep
KC8QQN
