



The Repeater

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The Livonia Amateur Radio Club

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Thanks to John, KN8B, and Judy Dellinger for hosting a fantastic annual Christmas Party at their house. About 22 members and spouses showed up to partake in friendly conversation, and exquisite food.

The board saw the need to create an appointed position that acts as a liaison between the club and the emergency coordinators associated with the Livonia Police Department. This position is called Public Service Officer, and John Mathey, K8AZT, was suggested for the office. John has accepted the position. Thanks John!

Proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws were voting on at the November 23rd meeting. While a quorum was present, a majority of members were not. Rodney, K8SGL, suggested that we send out absentee ballots to those members who could not show up, adding their votes to the ones that were counted at the meeting. The members present agreed with this. The deadline for the ballots is December 31st.

We are still in the planning stages of a Technician-in-a-Day class. Bruno, WA8DHP, suggested that we hold it on Saturday, April 24th, on ARRL National Exam Weekend. The class will be held from 9am till 2pm, followed by a VE-administered exam session until 4pm. Final plans are in the approval process by the parents of the students. If you are interested in either planning or teaching part of the class, please let me know.

The 39th LARC Swap-N-Shop will be held February 21, 2010 at the Livonia Civic Park Seniors Center. The vendors have been contacted and we are starting to plan for volunteers for the event. This is our club's major fundraiser and we need your help. If you can take the time to help us for a few hours on either Saturday night (setup) or Sunday morning (during the actual swap), please let me or another board member know. Also, if you have a vendor in mind that you think would be interested in being at our swap, please let us know.

Dues, the second source of our annual funding, for 2010 are due at the January meeting. Dues are \$15 per year.

Elections will be held at the February meeting. If you would like to run for any of the offices, or have someone who you think should be nominated, please bring it up to any of the board members. All elected positions are fair game, so don't be shy about running for an office or making a suggestion.

Our club members are a plethora of technical information and expertise. Often, people starting out on a particular mode, or stumped by technical problems with their equipment are hesitant to bring up their problems at meetings or breakfasts. If

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you have any questions regarding a piece of equipment or a new mode you'd like to try out, please let me know by e-mail (President@livoniaarc.com). I will see about getting you connected to someone who has the expertise you need.

Are you an ARRL member, a VE, a CERT member, an ARES or RACES member? Is this information reflected in our roster? Let us know if this information is missing, or if you have recently joined an organization that will aid your club or fellow club members.

Want to be net control for the weekly LARC 2-Meter Net? Step up and contact Dave, KC8YWT, our Net Control Coordinator and let him know which weeks will work out for you. He has a script and a log that make being Net Control easy.

If you have any information you'd like published in this newsletter, please pass them along to me. I'm open to starting a corkboard as well. So if you have anything you want to sell or buy, let me know, so I can add it. This isn't *my* newsletter, it's *our* newsletter. I'm always looking for suggestions for improvement from the membership. And as always, if you would like to be newsletter editor, let me know. This position is open as well.

Also, if you have any suggestions for presentations for an upcoming meeting, please let me know.

For this month's presentation, John, KN8B, will talk about running digital modes.

73,

Mike, N8MR

Amateur Radio Bill Passes Senate, Moves to the House

From: The ARRL Letter for December 15, 2009

On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations."

Members of the Senate Homeland Security and governmental Affairs Committee considered S 1755 on December 10. After it passed through Committee, it was placed on the Senate's calendar to be voted on. "We are grateful to Committee Chairman Lieberman and Ranking Member Collins for sponsoring the bill and arranging for its swift consideration and passage by the Senate," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Similar in language to HR 2160 (also called The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 that was introduced this past April by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee [D-TX-18]), S 1755 calls on DHS to undertake a study on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief and then to submit a report to Congress no more than 180 days after the bill becomes law. The study shall:

Include a review of the importance of Amateur Radio emergency communications in furtherance of homeland security missions relating to disasters, severe weather and other threats to lives and property in the United States, as well as recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts and improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.

Identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, such as the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use regulations on residential antenna installations; and make recommendations regarding such impediments for consideration by other federal departments, agencies and Congress.

In conducting the study, S 1755 directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to "utilize the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations, including the Amateur Radio, emergency response and disaster communications communities."

S 1755 makes note of the fact that Section 1 of the Joint Resolution entitled Joint Resolution to Recognize the Achievements of Radio Amateurs, and To Establish Support for Such Amateurs as National Policy -- approved October 22, 1994 (Public Law 103-408) -- included a finding that stated: "Reasonable accommodation should be made for the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences, private vehicles and public areas, and the regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage amateur radio operations as a public benefit." The bill also pointed out that Section 1805(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 757(c)) directs the Regional Emergency Communications Coordinating Working Group of the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate their activities with ham and Amateur Radio operators among the 11 other emergency organizations, such as ambulance services, law enforcement and others.

THIS MONTH ON THE AIR

Contests & Special Events

ARRL Straight Key Night, CW - 0000z to 2359z, Jan 1

ARRL RTTY Roundup - 1800z, Jan. 2 to 2359z, Jan 3

North American QSO Party, CW - 1800z, Jan 9 to 0600z, Jan 10

North American QSO Party, SSB - 1800z, Jan 16 to 0600z, Jan 17

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest - 0200z to 0400z, Jan 18

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW - 2200z, Jan 29 to 2159z, Jan 31

Vermont QSO Party - 0000z, Feb 6 to 2400z, Feb 7

10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB - 0001z, Feb 6 to 2359z, Feb 7

Minnesota QSO Party - 1400z to 2400z, Feb 6

Delaware QSO Party 1700z, Feb 6 to 0100z, Feb 8

Mexico RTTY International Contest - 1800z, Feb 6 to 1759z, Feb 7

North American Sprint, CW - 0000z to 0400z, Feb 7

DX

VP6AL - Pitcairn I - Nov 13 to Mar 01; QSL OK via eQSL or direct: c/o P.D.C Hahei, RD1, Whitianga, New Zealand

VK9WBM - Willis Island - Dec 01 to May 01; QSL via VK4DMC

T6LC - Afghanistan - Dec 03 to Mar 03; QSL via K4MJN; mainly 40 20m; CW, SSB; check 1430-1800z

XR9JA - South Shetland Is - Jan 10 to Jan 14; 160-6m; CW, SSB, PSK31; QSL via CE5JA

J5UAP - Guinea Bissau - Jan 15 to Mar 31; 160-10m; mainly digital, SSB, CW; QSL via HA3AUI Direct

FO/DL1AWI - Austral Islands - Jan 18 to Feb 05; 160-30m, focus on low bands; SSB, RTTY; QSL via DL1AWI

CE0Z/JA8BMK - Juan Fernandez Island - Jan 19 to Feb 02; 160-10m w/ focus on low bands; SSB, CW, digital; QSL via JA8BMK

YJ0MM - Vanuatu - Jan 21 to Jan 28; 160-10m; CW, SSB, RTTY; QSL via 9A8MM

VP8DMN - Falkland Islands - Jan 21 to Jan 29; QSL LotW or via G7VJR

5X1NH - Uganda - Jan 21 to Mar 21; QSL via G3RWF

PY2XB/PY0F - Fernando de Noronha - Jan 23 to Feb 03; all bands; CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK; QSL via PT7WA

Antarctic - Now to Spring 2010; Check 14.070, 14.188, 14.203, 14.243 and 21.032 from 1600z for activity. Several bases will be active throughout our fall/winter/spring.

UPCOMING SWAPS

Jan 17

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club
Hazel Park High School, Hazel Park, MI; Talk-In:
146.64 (PL 100); <http://hparc.org/swap/>

Jan 30

Michigan Antique Radio Club Winter Meet
Costick Center; 28600 W. 11 Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI;
<http://michiganantiqueradio.org/events/meetSchedule.shtml>

Feb 21

Livonia Amateur Radio Club
Civic Park Seniors Center , Livonia, MI; Talk-In:
145.35 (PL 100);
<http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm>