



# The Repeater

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The Livonia Amateur Radio Club

**NEXT MEETING**

Monday September 27, 2010  
7:30 P.M.  
Livonia Civic Center Library  
East Wing Meeting Rooms

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### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

August is almost over and soon we will be back into the swing of things at the LARC. Even though we had our summer break, the LARC was active with Field Day and the Hot Dog and Corn Roast. You can see photos of both events in the last few pages of the newsletter.

Please welcome our new LARC Repeater newsletter editor, John, KD8NWD. John has experience in newsletters and is enthusiastic about taking on The Repeater, and is already planning the September newsletter. If you have any suggestions for material in future newsletters, please contact John - [NewsletterEditor@livoniaarc.com](mailto:NewsletterEditor@livoniaarc.com). Thanks John, for joining our team.

Looking to upgrade your license or know of someone who would like to? The LARC will be having a VE session on Saturday, September 25th from 2pm till 4pm at the Livonia Police Department. Before the exam session, we will have a Q & A session from noon till 2pm at the same location. If you or someone you know would like to attend, please tell Bruno, WA8DHP, that you will be there. Also let him know what license you want to get.

LARC Nite Out, the club's annual dinner, will be held on Saturday, November 6th, starting at 6pm, with dinner orders being taken at 6:30pm. This year, it will again be held at J Subu Restaurant, 20300 Farmington Rd (between 7 and 8 Mile Roads), Livonia, MI 48152. We will again be having a choice of three entrees. though the fish entree has been changed to something more substantial. Cost of the LARC Nite Out is \$15 per person, the club will pick up the additional cost. RSVP and payment are due to Doris by the October general meeting (Monday, Oct. 25th).

The day after LARC Nite Out, Sunday, November 7th, we will be holding our annual Edmund Fitzgerald memorial special event station at Dossin Great Lakes Museum. We will have two stations set up on HF - one using voice communications and one on CW. Why not stop by, help us set up, operate or see what we're doing. Due to last year's newspaper reporter highlighting our operation in the Detroit News, our operation this year has gotten the attention of the Detroit Historical Society and they will be advertising our operation. What a great way to tell the public about ham radio and the Livonia Amateur Radio Club. QRX for more details,

We are looking for someone to host our annual Christmas Party. The date and time will be left up to the host. If you are interested in hosting this event, please let one of your board members know ASAP.

We need Net Controls for the LARC 2-Meter Net. Contact Dave, KC8YWT, our Net Control Coordinator and let him know that you want to be a net control. It's a fun, educational and rewarding venture, and Dave will set you up with all the scripts, net log, etc.

**LARC 2- Meter Repeater Net**

Every Thursday at  
8:00pm local time on  
the Livonia repeater -  
K8UNS. 145.35, 100Hz  
PL Tone or via Echolink  
W8WQU-R.

73,  
Mike, N8MR

## PRB-1 Michigan Developments

From: Monthly Michigan Section News Summary  
August, 2010

**PRB-1 UPDATE. PRB-1 UPDATE:** Your PRB-1 Committee reports that we have a Senator who is going to sponsor our legislation in the State Senate. More details will follow as soon as the bill is presented. We are asking all Michigan hams to write their local Representative to encourage support for HB5556. We have sample letters posted on the web pages; you can download a letter and add your own comments to personalize it for your representative. We also have a sample letter for clubs to use. For those who are not aware of what PRB-1 is and how it effects amateur radio operators log on to <http://www.prb1michigan.org>.

The ARRL Michigan Section maintains their own web page at <http://arrl-mi.org/>. Please check it often for the latest news and information.

## Elmer Hotline!

Starting out on a particular mode or stumped by technical problems with your equipment? Are you hesitant to bring up their problems at meetings or breakfasts? Bring your questions regarding a piece of equipment or a new mode to the Elmer Hotline: (President@livoniaarc.com). We will get you connected to someone who has the expertise you need.

## Ohio State Parks on the Air, 2010

The annual Ohio State Parks on the Air Contest will be Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 1600 to 2400 UTC. The prime purpose of the contest is to promote public awareness of ham radio. Of course the second purpose is for everyone who enters to have fun.

Portable and mobile stations, individual or club, will operate from as many of Ohio's 75 state parks as possible. Information is on the OSPOTA web page at <http://parks.portcars.org>.

## Amateur Radio Technician Class

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club is starting their fall Technician class soon. If you know of anyone interested in taking this class please pass the following information along.

When: Starting Monday September 13th for ten weeks.

Where: Southfield EOC on Evergreen between 10 and 11 mile roads.

Time: 7 to 9 PM

Exam: Last class at same location.

Cost: FREE— \$20.00 to purchase the ARRL License Manual at first class.

For further info or directions contact Marsha Fleming N8FE, HPARC instructor at [n8fe@arrl.org](mailto:n8fe@arrl.org) or [www.hparc.org](http://www.hparc.org)

## Extra Class Study Group

From the South Lyon Area Amateur Radio Club.

Mike W8XH will hold a new Extra Class Study group for those who would like to attain the Extra Class license. This session would begin September 18 and run approximately 12 to 14 weeks. Those who are interested in participating should send an email to Mike at [w8xh@arrl.net](mailto:w8xh@arrl.net)

## Free Press Marathon Volunteers

The organizers of Free Press Marathon on October 17, 2010 are looking Licensed amateur radio (HAM) operators to assist at various points on the course, the start and finish. A volunteer MUST list their Ham Call sign in the signup at locations .

At [www.freepmarathon.com](http://www.freepmarathon.com), click on the Volunteer window which will take you to the Volunteer page. On that page, click on the bold type uppercase text that says VOLUNTEER HERE. Select "Ham Radio" near the bottom of list and fill out all required information.

It should be known that it will require early rise time on race day. Volunteers for the ham radio communications are expected to be at the organizing site at 6 AM race day. Any additional questions should be directed to Kevin Gilday /KD8GVM/Communications Director ([810-499-2415](tel:810-499-2415)/[GREventRadio@GMail.com](mailto:GREventRadio@GMail.com))

# Wayne County SKYWARN Net Procedures

August 10, 2010

The power point presentation for SKYWARN is on the NWS web site for use as a refresher. This training course is updated every two years. To be qualified as a SKYWARN spotter you must take the course in a class room at minimum every two years. You may take it more often if you like.

Spotters who are ham radio operators in Wayne County can take part in our SKYWARN nets on our 2 meter repeaters. All other persons located in other counties or countries are to check into their respective nets. These other people are not to check in on the Wayne County net.

The primary repeater is 145.33- MHz with 100 Hz PL and the secondary or backup repeater is 147.16+ MHz with 100Hz PL. If no net is in session or you cannot make it to a radio, use the 800 number from your spotter card to report a severe weather condition. This number is unpublished so do not repeat it on the air or post on anywhere on the web.

SKYWARN nets are CONTROLLED nets and no transmission is allowed without the permission of the Net Control Station. Please keep your transmissions short. Please organize your thoughts before transmitting. You must first call the NCS and be recognized before you make a transmission. Use this method: Give your call sign phonetically and wait for the NCS to answer. The NCS may be busy making notes, checking radar, preparing another warning statement or talking with MICON. Speak slowly, pens don't write as fast as you can talk.

When checking in please give no other information than your call sign, name, city and major cross streets ONLY. Your SKYWARN spotter ID number is not needed. Individual hams are never to make a report directly on the MICON net frequency during an active net. You may listen only. The MICON net is a CLOSED net. This net is in the 440 MHz band.

Always listen first to see what condition the SKYWARN net is in. There are three net conditions, Green, Yellow and Red.

**Green** - Under condition green, net control will accept check-ins, reports of approaching thunderstorms, heavy rain, gust front arrival, intense frequent lightning, pea size hail or larger, damaging winds, torrential rains, flooding over the curbs, wall clouds, funnel clouds, or tornadoes. Please keep your transmissions short, no transmissions are to be made without the approval of the Net Control Station. If you have a severe weather report to give, please feel free to call in.

**Yellow** – Under condition yellow, net control will NOT accept check-ins, and only wants reports of heavy, torrential, or horizontal rain, flooding over the curb 6 inches deep or more, damaging winds greater than 40 MPH, gust front arrivals, hail pea sized or larger, intense frequent lightning, wall clouds, funnel clouds, or tornadoes. Please keep your transmissions short, no transmissions are to be made without the approval of the Net Control Station. Any check-ins will be taken after the net is returned to condition green. If you have a severe weather report to give that meets this criteria, please feel free to call in.

**Red** - Under condition red, net control will not accept check-ins, and only wants reports of hail three quarters of an inch in diameter or larger, winds in EXCESS of 60 MPH, wall clouds, funnel clouds, or tornadoes. Please keep your transmissions short, no transmissions are to be made without the approval of the Net Control Station. Any check-ins will be taken after the net is returned to condition green. If you have a severe weather report that meets this criteria, please feel free to call in.

## When reporting remember to use the T.E.L. System.

**Time** – The local time of the effect, when it actually happened. This helps the NWS track the storm effects on radar and if and where they might need to issue an updated warning.

**Effect** – Describe the effect as accurately and in as simple of terms as possible. Use standards when describing. State if wind speeds are measured or estimated.

**Location** – The city and the closest MAIN cross streets that would be found on a metro Detroit map. GPS over the radio takes too much time and there is too much margin for error.

We will no longer use a pre-net check-in period. You can check in after the net or when the net condition is reduced to green. When the net is in condition Yellow or Red, do not call net control to report you are leaving the area or the net.

Damage reports should be sent on the web via eSpotter or called in after the storm has left the 17 county area that the White Lake office is responsible for. Other areas may still be in condition yellow or red. If any county is in condition red or yellow, MICON will be under condition red or yellow. Do not use the 800 number when the bad weather is still in the area for damage reports.

Occasionally we will have an untrained operator make a report. We will try and confirm this report with a trained spotter. If no confirmation is made, we will pass the information onto the NWS with the qualification that the information came from an untrained spotter. If you are untrained and make a report, please inform the NCS when making the report.

Never make a second hand report or "good weather report" on the net. Only report bad weather you actually witness. Remember, the National Weather Service has a better radar feed than you or any other web source.

NEVER self deploy to an affected area. You may be walking right into a hazardous chemical spill, downed power lines, or flooded and washed out roads then become another victim. If you are sent to an area you will be given directions for safe entry.

**Remember your personal safety and the safety of your family comes first.**

Shanon Herron KA8SPW    NWS Detroit: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dtx/>    WCARPSC: <http://www.wa8eoc.org/>  
Wayne County EC/RO

## Upcoming Swaps

### Sept-11

Grand Rapids Area Hamfest  
Home School Bldg.  
5625 Burlingame SW  
Wyoming, Mich  
Talk in 146.26 (98.8PL) & 146.5204  
8AM to 1PM

### Sept-12

Findlay Radio Club  
Hancock County Fairgrounds  
1017 E. Sandusky St.  
Findlay Ohio

### Sept-19

Adrian Amateur Radio Club  
Lenawee County Fairgrounds  
602 N. Dean Street

### Oct-16

The Great Lake Shore Super Swap  
Holland Amateur Radio Club  
West Ottawa High School  
3600 152nd Street  
8AM to Noon

### Oct-17

Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club  
Kalamazoo County Fair Grounds  
2900 Lake Street  
Kalamazoo, Mich.  
Talk in 147.040 (94.8PL)  
8:00 to Noon

# THIS MONTH ON THE AIR

## Propagation Forecast

Prepared by the US Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Weather Prediction Center

Forecast of Solar and Geomagnetic Activity 01 to 27 September 2010

Solar activity is expected to be at very low levels. Very low to low levels are possible through 15 Sept. as Region 1098 and 1099 return to the front of the solar disk.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be predominantly quiet for 01-18 Sept. Quiet to unsettled, with isolated active conditions are expected for 19-22 Sept. due to a recurrent CH HSS (Coronal Hole High Speed Stream). Quiet levels should prevail for 22 Sept. through the remainder of the forecast period.

## DX

**JY7P**—Petra Jordan 2010 Special Event Station 17th to 19th September 2010

**AA4VK, N0TG, WA4DAN, AI5P**, Sable Island dx pedition October 2010

**A25HQ**— Botswana October November 2010 DX Pediton 160 m -10m

**ZL8X**— Kermadec island 2010, Nov 19th to Dec 5th DX Pediton

**Ox6y1** - Greenland YL Expedition from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September 80 meters down

## Contests & Special Events

**RSGB 80 Meter Club Sprint, SSB**—1900z to 2030z Sept. 9

**NCCC Sprint Ladder , CW**—0230z to 0300z Sept. 9

**WAE DX Contest, SSB**—0000z Sept. 11 to 2359z Sept. 12

**Arkansas QSO Party CW/Phone/Digital**—1300z Sept. 11 to 0100z Sept. 12

**9/11 Memorial Event** 1300Z-2300Z, Sep 10, 14.295 USB  
14.070 PSK31, 7.250 LSB

**North American Sprint CW**— 0000z to 0400z Sept. 12

**Connecticut QSO Party**— 0000z to 2359z Sept. 18

**Scandinavian Activity Contest CW**— 1200z Sept. 18 to 1200z Sept. 19

**SRT HF Contest SSB**— 1300z Sept.18 to 1300z Sept 19

**South Carolina QSO Party**—1300z Sept.18 to 2100z Sept 19

**CQ Worldwide DX Contest RTTY**— 0000z Sept 25 to 2400z Sept 26

**Texas QSO Party**— 1400z Sept 25 to 0200z Sept 26 and 1400z to 2000z Sept 26

## Reminders

<b>First post summer meeting</b>	<b>Sept. 27th @ 7:30</b>
<b>Volunteers for net control contact</b>	<b>Dave KC8YWT</b>
<b>Edmund Fitzgerald Special Event</b>	
<b>At the Dossin Great Lakes Museum</b>	<b>November 7th</b>

## Editors Notes

I would like to thank everyone for their help and encouragement including those who sent information, leads and photos for my first Repeater. I will do my best to follow Mikes lead and publish the best Repeater that I can. To quote Mike "This isn't *my* newsletter, it's *our* newsletter". I will always be open for suggestions for improvements to The Repeater. For those interested in contributing to The Repeater the following items would be useful: Technical articles and information, events that you come across, tips and tricks, information for the corkboard, photos and any other items of interest that you would like to appear in the Repeater. Please feel free to send your inputs to me via e-mail to [jc1395@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jc1395@sbcglobal.net) or [NewsletterEditor@livoniaarc.com](mailto:NewsletterEditor@livoniaarc.com). One note-if at all possible send me your inputs in MS Word or .txt format. Also when taking and submitting photos use your highest resolution to insure a good picture for publication. Thanks—John ND8NWD

## Past Events & Photos

LARC Hot Dog and Corn Roast was held on August the 14th. Wonderful weather, lots of good food and plenty of LARC members and guests made it a great event. A big thanks to Tas K8TAS and Doris KD8DXJ who hosted the event and whose efforts made everything work so well.





