

KEY CLICKS

NEWSLETTER of THE LANCASTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 1987 - 2010 JANUARY MMX PAGE ~ 1



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well I find myself back once again as Newsletter editor for the KEY-CLICKS. I had hoped someone might take it but no one did. "The Show Must Go On" or would that be, "The Paper must be Published". Regardless I will do my best to get this baby out to our club members and admiring public on schedule. Thanks to Joe Gearhart for taking over the newsletter for the past several months!

Now that the new year is upon us I want to wish everyone a joyous, happy, and prosperous New Year. The new year will undoubtedly be a great year. We have a lot to offer as always and our club members are the greatest. I'll do my part: 1. continue as President 2. Newsletter editor 3. Hopefully bring interesting presentations to our monthly membership meetings. 4. Mr. Turnkey 5. Bring the doughnuts to the general membership meetings. 6. How could I not forget our monthly Board Meetings. 7. Seek spiritual guidance from our Club Chaplain. We do have a Club Chaplain you know? (just kidding about the guidance unless I start losing more hair.)

This month there will be a VHF contest. The VHF Sweepstakes. **Date and Contest Period:** The date will be announced annually by the ARRL but will generally be the third or fourth weekend in January. Begins 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday (**January 23-25, 2010**). If these dates change an email will be sent out. I have already heard interest in having a VHF contest/party at the clubhouse. Anyone wishing to volunteer in organizing this event please let me know. Of course it can be a group effort too.

As most of you know I'll be moving in mid January to a new house; my very own at that. I may need volunteers to help me move. I'll let you know soon. I'll be a lot closer to the clubhouse and a whole lot more.

So with that be safe and the word for this year is "VOLUNTEER". Here's to a great 2010!

73

Jim Glor N8GXR

You can visit us on the web at: <http://www.hamgate.net/~larc/>

WE ARE PROUD TO BE AN ~ ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

VE TEST SESSIONS

As many of you John Maxwell W2JM is not only our head VE but also runs prep-classes for all licenses in amateur radio. Many have become new hams and many have upgraded. When John announces the new dates for classes they will be announced over the repeater and posted in the KEYCLICKS. A lot of time and effort goes into the preparation of these classes and they are well worth it! Instruction is free. The exam is \$15. If you are interested in becoming a ham or thinking about upgrading you owe it to yourself to sign up for the respective class. John would love to see your smiling face in class. Please sign up when these classes become available. The last class filled up quickly. When it came time for the VE session, we ended up in two rooms because we had more people than one room could handle. I thought everything went off very well. Thank goodness we had enough VE's.

DAYTON HAMVENTION 2010

It not too early to start making plans for the Dayton Hamvention in May. This year the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society will be having another Bus trip from Cleveland to Dayton. This is a very convenient way to go down on a Saturday and spend the day at the "Candy Factory". The info can be found at this link. <http://www.2cars.org/Dayton%202010/2010%20dayton%20bus.pdf>

I plan on attending as I do just about every year. If you've never been you owe it to yourself to go once in this life time. You can always ask me or others who have attended. I suspect most of you would like to hunt for the bargains in the huge outdoor Flea Market. Don't forget about all the deals inside with all the major dealers.

Jim Glor N8GXR n8gxr49@gmail.com

WNY SECTION NEWS

Western New York Hamfests and Events for 2010 !

9 January 2010: Winterfest 2010, Marathon Hamfest sponsored by the Sky-line Amateur Radio Club will be held at the Marathon Civic Center, in Marathon NY. For more information go to [Marathon Hamfest](#) . Talk-in 147.18. Contact: Patrick Dunn KC2BQZ, 1302 Rams Gulch Rd, Jamesville NY 13078. email: KC2BQZ@gmail.com

30 January 2010: Lockport ARA Hamfest sponsored by the Lockport Amateur Radio Association will be held at the South Lockport Fire Company at Ruhlman and Transit Roads in Lockport NY. For more information go to [LARA Hamfest](#) . Talk-in 146,82 (PL 107.2). Contact Daniel Caswell N2OBX, 29 Hoover Pkwy, Lockport NY 14094. email:

HOW MANY HAMS DOES IT TAKE TO FIX A TOILET?



Well if I'm counting correctly.....One! The other two pictured are poking fun at him and the photographer is documenting this. Anyway pictured from left to right are Bob AA2ZW, Tim N2YDK and Vince KA2HJX. Steve KC2QZF is the photographer.

I mentioned at the beginning in the Presidents message that 'Volunteer' is the new word for 2010. Joe ,WV2NY, talked about it in the December issue of the KEY-CLICKS. There seems to be a select few who volunteer for various positions in the club. I'm very thankful for all who help in whatever way they can. I'm mainly referring to officer positions, board members, chairmanships etc. I can't twist arms and I wouldn't even attempt. (Too old!) I just want to encourage anyone to run for office or volunteer for a chairmanship, board or committee. (How about newsletter editor?) I did and I kept going; did not have time to look back being very busy. It is rewarding. I started out as a board member, then board member plus membership chairman plus newsletter editor. Forgive me if the order isn't all correct. Lastly President. (Besides newsletter editor again.) What it all boils down to is that your club would love to see you in one of the above mentioned positions. It was through involving myself with the club that I saw just how much time and effort goes into the planning. Think about being part of the planning

GEARVAKf Bulletin (where the "f" is silent)

Radio Commission Ponders Baud Limits

By Elizabeth Conover Mung

GEARVAKf Investigative Reporter

Concerned by reports of increased packet collisions, the Radio Commission is considering steps to enforce the 55 baud limit.

"It has come to our attention that speeds as high as 300 and sometimes 1200

baud are being used," said Arnold Dargush, Director of the Commission's Baud

Enforcement Division (BED). The resulting collisions are causing heavy

damage on the bands rendering some frequencies unusable until the channels can

be swept.

GEARVAKf BULLETIN CONT.

"We had one case where bit litter completely shut down 145.01 MHz over a wide area," declared Dargush. "Frequency sweeping is not only expensive, but

while a frequency is being swept of collided data, others are being deprived

of it's use because of the thoughtlessness of speeders," said Dargush. And he

added: "Remember, every bit litter hurts."

--N8JR

SPACE AVAILABLE FOR ANY AMATEUR WHO WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE AN ARTICLE TO THE NEWSLETTER. COST: **FREE**

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES TO
N8GXR49@GMAIL.COM

SEE NEXT PAGE!!

Easy to build High Performance 2 Meter Yagi

Tim Mellenger N2YBK

Improve you signal with this compact design. This is an easy to build antenna and can be built in one or two days. The material can be purchased locally for about \$50-\$60. The only tools you will need, most home mechanics already have on hand. There are no special tools required. Although a drill press would make drilling the boom more accurate. If you follow the dimensions exactly, you will have a very light, portable antenna. It is GREAT for field day as polarization can be changed very quickly.

The article was first published in the September 92' issue of 73's magazine. The author was Bill Robertson W3HMI. I followed his suggestions and the antenna works GREAT ! This antenna would be a nice addition to any station. The specs are as follows:

Gain:	14 dbi
Bandwidth for 1.5 to 1 VSWR:	3 Mhz
Beamwidth E-plane:	37 Degrees
Beamwidth H-plane:	42 Degrees
Front-to-Back Ratio:	Greater than 20 db
Sidelobes:	Greater than 15 db
Boom Length:	76-1/4 inches
Longest Element:	41-13/16 inches
Total weight:	Less than 2 lbs.

The antenna uses a Gamma Match fabricated from a 9-1/2" long piece of RG-8 coax cable with a sliding clamp for easy tuning. Construction is very simple and performance is unbelievable. As I said, I built mine to the dimensions in the article and I have a 1.5:1 match from 144 to 147 Mhz. I have included some pictures of the completed antenna so you all can see the "finished product". If anyone is interested and would like a copy of the construction details and the original article, please feel free to e-mail me at tjm80144@roadrunner.com and I will send you a copy. If you would like to see more photos just drop me a line.



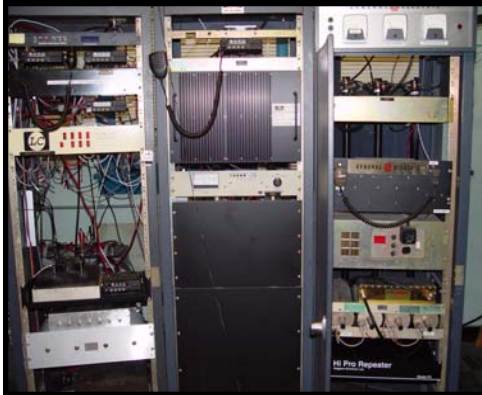
W2SO "VE" TEST SESSIONS

LANCASTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB "VE" TEST SESSIONS

LARC holds it's "VE" test sessions on the last Tuesday of selected months. Test sessions are held at 7pm at the Lancaster Amateur Radio Clubhouse at 525 Pavement Road in Lancaster. Pre-Registration is requested for all test sessions, but not required as walk-ins will be welcome. You can Pre-Register or find out more information about test sessions by contacting:

John Maxwell W2JM at : w2jm@arri.net

OUR REPEATER SYSTEMS & HF RADIO



147.255 +
443.850 +
224.640 -
52.15 / 53.17
INPUT / OUTPUT

Hi Guys, Work on the 2m radio is still on going. We are aware that there are some areas close by where the repeater appears to be a little deaf. Hopefully, we'll have the issues worked out soon and it won't need a hearing aid. After the 2m upgrades we plan on getting the 440 up to snuff too.

UPCOMING CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Tuesday, January 5th, 2010, LOCATION: CLUBHOUSE
- JANUARY ARRL VHF CONTEST: Saturday & Sunday January 23 - 25, TIMES: TO BE ANNOUNCED
- BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING: Thursday January 28th, 7 PM at the CLUBHOUSE

LARC Monday Night Net
2 Meter Net 7:30 PM 147.255+
 Information , News and Weekly Topics

OPEN CLUBHOUSE
EVERY THURSDAY
 FROM 7 PM to 9 PM / EVERYONE WELCOME

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CLUB DIRECTORY

LARC CLUBHOUSE ADDRESS

LANCASTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 LANCASTER TOWN CENTER
 525 PAVEMENT ROAD
 LANCASTER NY 14086

INTERNET ADDRESS

<http://larc.hamgate.net>
 Email reflector: larc@larclist.hamgate.net
 Mondays: 7:30pm on 147.255+ pl 107.2
 I.R.L.P. NODE # 4908

DUES INFORMATION - YEARLY

\$30 Regular Membership
 Includes all family members.
 Dues run from Jan. to Dec.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

JIM GLOR N8GXR (09-10)

VICE PRESIDENT

J. Gearhart WV2NY (10-11)

SECRETARY

Denis Paufler N2DJP (09-10)

TREASURER

Jim Thrun KC2ISL (10-11)

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S. Piotrowski KC2QZF (10-11)

H. Montalvo AB2RR (09-10)

Ron Gilson WA2WWK (09-10)

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