



KeyClicks

The newsletter of the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

August, 2011

President's Message

Quick Links

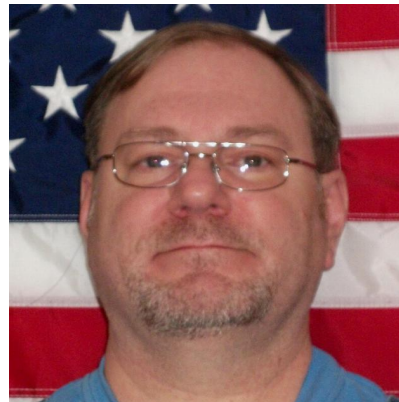
- [LARC Home Page](#)
- [LARC Sponsored Hamfest Information](#)
- [LARC on Facebook](#)
- [Live W2SO Repeater Audio](#)

General Information

Club Officers

- President
Joe Gearhart - WV2NY
- Vice-President
Steve Piotrowski - KC2QZF
- Secretary
Luke Calliano - N2GDU
- Treasurer
Chuck Curtin - W2EM

Board of Directors



Hi ya' campers, July was another exciting month for our club. This month one of our club events found us at Chestnut Ridge Park where members were doing some good old fashioned orienteering and fox hunting. It was a warm day for a hike as could be attested by several members who were a little damp when they returned to the shelter, but everyone had fun and no one got lost. For August we will be down at the Dunkirk Lighthouse and we'll be having our own hamfest at the end of the month. Down the road we have our road rally coming up and we are also looking into doing a DXpedition and putting one of the US islands at Como Lake Park on the air.

As most of you have heard by now GRAM is disbanding as a club and they have given us their entire repeater system in the hopes that we can keep it on the air, we will be doing our best to do so. Our repeater committee members have been very busy going over the repeater and getting all the paperwork done and we should have everything ready for the handoff on September 1st. If you were at the Batavia Hamfest then you also know how successful it has been in past years to their club and how much of an area tradition that is has become over the years. You guessed it, we are also hoping to keep its fine traditions going in the future.

As all this comes about there are also rumors of another local ham club that might call it quits as well. We've all heard the stories over the last few years of how the hobby has been dying. Myself I don't believe it, if that were true then how come ham licenses are still being issued at a large rate. Ever been to one of our test sessions, then you would know for a fact that the hobby

- Kevin Retzer - K9KVN
2010-2011
- Chuck Lawson - KC2BLH
2010-2011
- Jay Thompson - KC2NVL
2010-2011
- Karl Hutchinson - W2KTH
2011-2012
- Bob Delameter - AA2ZW
2011-2012

Ex-Officio

- KeyClicks Editor
Adam Pawlowski - KC2YQF
- KeyClicks Editor/PR
Bill Freeman - N4NJJ
- Net Director
Kevin Retzer - K9KVN
- Membership Chairman
Phil Meyer - KC2TPY
- Budget and Internet>
Luke Calliano - N2GDU
- Turn Key
Jim Glor - N8GXR
- Trustee
Joe Gearhart - WV2NY

Club Meeting

Click [here](#) for general meeting

is alive and well. What will determine the fate of the hobby for the future is obvious, everyone involved in it must participate and keep it alive. It's just that simple, you must turn your hobby into just that, a hobby and keep it active. It's your hobby, be a part of it.

Until next time this is your President Joe WV2NY saying 73 and I'll catch you on the repeater.

Light up summer with LARC

>KC2YQF

LARC, the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club, will again be participating in International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend on August 20th, and 21st, 2011.

This event first took place in 1994, local to Scotland, where it has quickly blossomed to encompass over 450 lighthouses and lightships in over 50 countries. LARC has participated in this event for the past several years, and this year is no exception.

The event officially runs from 0001UTC on Saturday, August 20th, through 2359 UTC on Sunday, August 21st. Sunday is also "International Lighthouse Day", organized by the International Association of Lighthouse Keepers, a worldwide event showcasing lighthouses and lightships abound. This is a historical event, promoting the awareness of these structures, and the need for their continued preservation and restoration. In the time of modern technology, such as the navigation systems we have become accustomed to, it is important to remember how we got here, and the purpose of our history, towards what it has contributed today.



We will again be at the Dunkirk Lighthouse, of which, more information, including the address, is available on-line, at the LARC website, or select the Dunkirk Lighthouse from the events list at the left.

information. Meetings resume in September.

[Clubhouse](#) open Thursdays, 18:00

Upcoming Events

August 20 - 21 - [Dunkirk Lighthouse](#)

August 28 - [Hamfest](#)

September 12 - Road Rally

Anyone wishing to donate used computer equipment to LARC must notify Jay Thompson, before bringing it to the clubhouse. Jay will determine if we have a need for the items. The only exception will be laptops, as they are always of use, if working.

Thank You for your understanding.

- Board of Directors

VE Test Sessions

(I'd love to tell you how much fun you'll have at this event, much like the rest I've attended this year, but I haven't yet been, and I suspect many of you have not either. Stop on down for a bit, and even if you want to pretend you don't know us - enjoy the outdoors. - ed)

2nd Annual Tailgate Hamfest

LARC will be hosting the 2nd Annual Tailgate Hamfest, on Sunday, August 28th, at the Bowen Road Grove in Lancaster. "Doors" will open at 7:30 AM for anyone to come and sell their wares, to shop, or maybe just spend some time out. Admission to this affair is \$5.00, which includes 'Unlimited' flea market space. You'll have to bring your own tables and chairs, and we'll do our best to bring some sunshine and pleasant weather.

Again, the location, Bowen Road Grove, is at 3845 Bowen Road, Lancaster, NY 14086. Just minutes from I90 on Walden. Admission begins at 7:30AM, and talk-in will use the club's own W2SO repeater, 147.255+ (107.2).

Visit the [Hamfest Website](#) (gbhamfest.hamgate.net) for a map, directions, and up-to-date information.

W2SO In The Park

On July 17th, club members met at Chestnut Ridge Park to spend the afternoon in the park. Club members participated in Ribbon event, wayfinding, map-reading, using GPS, and there was even a fox hunt.

Pictured below are the event participants, winner's of July's outing, from Joe, WV2NY

John Maxwell, W2JM, is the exam coordinator for the club. Test sessions are held the last Tuesday of odd numbered months except July. The cost is \$15. Contact John at w2jm@arrl.net.

Club Meetings

The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club meets the first Tuesday of every month, September through June, at 7 PM in the Lancaster Office of Emergency Management located at 321 Columbia Drive in Depew, New York. Meetings are open to all members and those interested in joining.

Clubhouse Open

Our clubhouse is open every Thursday



evening beginning at 7 PM. We invite you to stop by. If you enjoy amateur radio, and all it has to offer as much as we do, then we are the club for you.

Monday Night Net

We sponsor a net every Monday evening at 7:30 PM. The net is run by Kevin, K9KVN; Dave, N2BND; Bill, N4NJJ, when he.s around, or another member and is one of the most attended nets in the area. Check-in for weekly topics, question and answer sessions, and emergency preparedness.



Club Address

Lancaster Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Lancaster Town Center
525 Pavement Road
Lancaster, NY 14086

Extras

Warning! Not for the faint of squelch...

Despite the appearance of your S-meter, simplex in the Buffalo area carries on. Tune your 2m radio to 146.415 starting in the evening, and join a group of intriguing individuals for conversation. Topics can amaze as well as disgust, join if you dare, but, you've been warned.

Information in 'Extras' is not sponsored, recommended, nor sanctioned by the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club. It is a product of the local amateur radio community.



Newsletter Updates

>KC2YQF

It seems that every month now there's something different about the Club's newsletter. While putting together our newsletter is not exactly alchemy, it is not as easy as throwing a bowl of popcorn in the microwave, either. It takes some time and effort to create the content of the newsletter, so, as always, I strive to make things as easy as possible, so we get the most information to you - our club members.

This month, our format has changed yet again, as we switch gears somewhat to move towards a web-based presence. Our club discarded print newsletter distribution ages ago. While there are still readers who print the newsletter every month, it doesn't always make sense to

duplicate the existing content of our website, which is readily available for you to see. Instead, we'd like to focus on highlights and links to the information that matters most.

Of course, anything of major importance, such as known upcoming dates, announcements, and special bulletins, will continue to be distributed in this format. I appreciate your comments as I try my best to get this format ironed out. Please send them to me via email, so I have a record, and I remember. You'll find the link at the bottom of the newsletter, which you can click on to open your mail program (if you use one), if you're reading this on-line.

So, again, thanks for your patience as we try yet again to bring our news forward into the future.
- Adam, KC2YQF

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