



## President's Notes, September 2012

As you're reading these notes, it's now September. Our club has had an active summer, with Field Day at the end of June and Maker Faire at the end of July. August was our break, and now it's September. Both events went well, as has generally been the case over the years. Both events also had their challenges, as has also been the case.

It's also been a season for helping out with various service projects. Speaking for myself, I provided SAG support for the Mind Over Matter bicycle rider to fight Alzheimer's disease. That was the same day as the Komen Ride for the Cure, which we didn't officially support as a club this year, but perhaps some of you might have supported anyway. And speaking of bike ride support, we have the PEAC Celebration of Cycling ride taking place on September 8, one or two weeks earlier than usual. It'll be taking place before our club meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, so this is your official reminder. If you want to volunteer, contact Pat Quinn, WD8JDZ.

Our presentation this month, as is our tradition, will be a review of our Field Day effort: what went right, what went wrong, and what can we improve. Next year, we'll be in a new location, meaning we'll have a new set of challenges to overcome. We may also talk about our Maker Faire effort, which had its own set of hurdles and challenges. Then we'll be thinking about our presentation schedule for the year.

One challenge that remains before us is the status of the 2 meter and 220 MHz repeaters and whether they will be forced out of their current location. As I type this in late August, there are two months to go before their status becomes very uncertain. Watch the news for updates on the location; watch the e-mail list for updates on our response.

73,  
Roger, KD8CSE



## Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) Club Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2012

**Minutes, FARL Club Meeting - July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Meeting was called to order by Roger, KD8CSE  
at 18:42 (6:42 p.m.)

6 members and 5 or 6 guests were present.

This was a short meeting to conduct necessary club business; the main purpose of the meeting was to discuss Maker Faire arrangements.

**Minutes from prior meeting:** Deferred to the September meeting.

**Treasurers Report:** Formal report deferred to September meeting

**Board of Directors Meeting:** No B.O.D. meeting held.

**Committee Reports:**

**Repeaters:** No change in status

Dave, N8HKU still has phone patch operating instructions if needed.

Don't forget the Sunday Night Net @ 8p.m.

**Education and Training:** Bill Boyke, N8OZV reported that testing will be done on an ad hoc basis at Maker Faire and that new classes at Ford will start in August with an eye to giving tests in October. There may be an additional class and testing session prior to the end of the year.

**Communication - Newsletter/Website:** No new information on the newsletter or website. If you have a story or info for the newsletter, please contact Dave, N8HKU.

**Historian:** Nothing new

**Equipment Inventory:** Up to date

**FERA:** No new business

**Unfinished/Current Business:**

Maker Faire was discussed in depth at the end of the meeting

**New Business:**

K8SGL moved and WD8JDZ seconded a motion to approve spending up to \$300 to reimburse Field Day expenses. Motion passed 5-0

WD8JDZ moved and K8SGL seconded a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$100 for expenses related to Maker Faire, including the repair of the R7 vertical antenna. Motion passed 5-0.

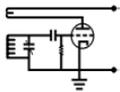
Komen Ride for the Cure is coming up on August 4<sup>th</sup>. There appeared to be little interest in supporting the event this year due to various conflicts.

**Break:** none taken

Final plans were discussed for Maker Faire on July 28 and 29.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:50 (7:50 p.m.)

Minutes prepared by Roger Reini, KD8CSE



## Adrian Hamfest 2012

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<b>When:</b>	September 16, 2012
<b>Hamfest Hours:</b>	Sunday, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Set-up starts at 6:30 AM Sunday morning
<b>Location:</b>	Lenawee County Fairgrounds, 602 N. Dean Street, Adrian, MI 49221
<b>Talk-in:</b>	W8TQE 145.370 - 85.4 pl
<b>Prices:</b>	\$10.00 per (1) Table \$3.00 per (1) Trunk Space \$5.00 per Ticket (Advance tickets receive 2 stubs)
<b>Hamfest Chair:</b>	Mark Hinkleman, NU8Z, <a href="mailto:cqnu8z@comcast.net">cqnu8z@comcast.net</a> , Phone: 517-423-5906
<b>VE Licensing Exams:</b>	Walk-in VE Licensing Exams, starting 9:00 A.M. Registration at 8:45 A.M. Bring Photo ID, \$15.00, and Photo copy of existing license if upgrading.
<b>Contact:</b>	Kevin Brooks, N8JMN, <a href="mailto:kbrooks@selectivedata.com">kbrooks@selectivedata.com</a> , Phone: 517-467-7695

There will be no half tables or half spaces offered. You must purchase a whole 8ft. space. Each vendor MUST purchase one ticket per person regardless of how many tables or trunk spaces purchased. Limited wall space and electricity is available for inside space. A food vendor will be provided during the ham fest on Sunday!

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF CHECKING YOUR LOG AND ENTERING YOUR LOG INFO CORRECTLY

By Roger Reini, KD8CSE

Experiences at this year's Maker Faire have taught me some good lessons on the importance of checking your log and of making sure the info is entered correctly. Failure to do so may lead to difficulties in sending out QSL cards or even making unfounded accusations. For a while, I was wondering if we'd logged someone who was pirating an expired call sign. That turned out not to be the case; for the reason why, read on.

On the Sunday afternoon of Maker Faire, I was helping Michelle Roderick, KD8GWX, fill out QSL cards and address the envelopes. I read off the information from the log while she recorded it onto the cards. Later, I searched for addresses in a copy of the FCC database that Bill Boyke, N8OZV, had downloaded, and I searched QRZ.com for the non-US addresses we needed. It was during that address search that we found three entries that had significant discrepancies from what our logs were telling us. Thanks to additional database filtering, we were able to resolve those discrepancies.

The first discrepancy was the simplest to resolve. It wasn't even the fault of the logger; we were misreading the log entry. The log had an entry for NR8U; unfortunately, Michelle and I read it as N8RU and got concerned when the database entry for what we thought was the correct call did not agree with our log. Later, when we discovered our error, we searched for the correct call sign and found that there was no discrepancy.

The second discrepancy involved an entry for KB2LYP. Our log said that this was Gordon from Youngstown, New York. However, the database said that someone named Carl had this call sign and that it had expired in 2011. How could we resolve this? Well, after I'd returned home from Maker Faire, I downloaded my own copy of the FCC database and imported it into Microsoft Access, a database creation and maintenance program. The database had a field for first name; I told it to find all entries with a first name of "Gordon" and a state of "New York" (although the actual field probably used "NY"). I looked through these entries and, lo and behold, there was a call sign of KB2YLP belonging to a man named Gordon from Lewiston, New York (Youngstown and Lewiston were adjacent communities, by the way). Notice the transposition of letters: the contact was with KB2YLP, yet it went into the log as

KB2LYP. Typos do happen, but we should try to minimize them. If we hadn't caught this, then KB2YLP would never have received his special N8M QSL card.

The third discrepancy was the most serious, in my opinion, for it involved a call sign the FCC listed as expired. There was a log entry for KC0FGF, showing the operator as Dick in Missouri. Searching for KC0FGF in the database found an entry, but it was for a man named Aaron in Colorado whose license had expired in 2009. Furthermore, QRZ.com had no entry for KC0FGF. Was somebody using an expired call sign? Was somebody on the air that shouldn't have been? Did we need to sic the FCC on them? Not just yet. It was far more likely that the operator had misheard or mistyped the call and entered a bad one in the log. I tried to think of call signs that might sound similar to KC0FGF, but everything I tried did not agree with our log; none of them were owned by a man named Dick or Richard from Missouri.

Searching my copy of the FCC database with additional filters resolved the concern. I filtered the database for licensees in Missouri with the first name of Richard. This generated a large list, but it was one that could easily be scanned for a call sign that looked or sounded like KC0FGF. And I found one: KC0FDF, belonging to a man named Richard from Missouri. It's possible that the D could have been misheard as a G. It's also possible that there could have been a typo because the D and G keys are on opposite sides of the F key. Perhaps the finger went right when it should have gone left. Either way, an error crept into the log, and it could have led to accusations of someone operating without a license, accusations that would have been untrue.

So what does this mean? It means we need to be very careful when making our log entries. No fingers are being pointed here; we can all make mistakes, but we can also all be more vigilant against making them.



## Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

### ARRL Technician/General/Extra Class License Classes & Exams

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#### Technician License Class – Fall, 2012

**Location:** Macomb Intermediate School District Building,  
44001 Garfield Road,  
Clinton Township, MI 48038  
(North of 19 mile on west side of Garfield)  
Park on the north side of the building.

**Starting Date:** Monday September 10, 2012 for 10 consecutive weeks

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<b>Time:</b>	7 – 9 pm
<b>Technician License Manual:</b>	The book can be purchased from the instructor the first night of class. The retail cost is \$29.95 discounted to \$25.00 - exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Exam:</b>	The FCC exam will be held on the last night of class. The cost is \$15.00 cash only – exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Pre-Registration:</b>	Desirable, so that we can order the proper number of manuals.
<b>Instructor and Contact:</b>	Rich Urbano, <a href="mailto:KC8WPW@arrl.net">KC8WPW@arrl.net</a>

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## **General License Class – Fall, 2012**

<b>Location:</b>	City of Southfield Emergency Operations Center, 26000 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI (Basement of the Parks & Recreation Center, North end of the Municipal Complex)
<b>Starting Date:</b>	Monday September 10, 2012 for 12 consecutive weeks
<b>Time:</b>	7 – 9 pm
<b>General License Manual:</b>	The book can be purchased from the instructor the first night of class. The retail cost is \$29.95 discounted to \$25.00 - exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Exam:</b>	The FCC exam will be held on the last night of class. The cost is \$15.00 cash only – exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Pre-Registration:</b>	Desirable, so that we can order the proper number of manuals.
<b>Instructor and Contact:</b>	Wallace Murray, <a href="mailto:KE8HR@arrl.net">KE8HR@arrl.net</a>

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## **Extra Class License Course – Fall, 2012**

<b>Location:</b>	City of Southfield Emergency Operations Center, 26000 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI. (Basement of the Parks & Recreation Center, North end of the Municipal Complex)
<b>Starting Date:</b>	Monday September 28, 2012 for 16 consecutive weeks
<b>Time:</b>	7 – 9 pm
<b>ARRL Extra Class License Manual:</b>	The book can be purchased from the instructor the first night of class. The retail cost is \$29.95 discounted to \$25.00 - exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Exam:</b>	The FCC exam will be held on the last night of class. The cost is \$15.00 cash only – exact change would be appreciated.
<b>Pre-Registration:</b>	Desirable, so that we can order the proper number of manuals.
<b>Instructor and Contact:</b>	Ron Miotke, <a href="mailto:WD8MNX@arrl.net">WD8MNX@arrl.net</a>



## Club Repeater Information

The Ford Amateur Radio League operates 3 club repeaters under the club K8UTT license. All the repeaters are located in the Dearborn, MI area near the Southfield Freeway. All repeaters are open for members and guests to operate.

Repeater	Output Freq	Input Freq	Tone
2 M Repeater	145.270	-600 KHz	100 Hz PL
1 1/4 M Repeater	224.520	-1.6 MHz	100 Hz PL
70 cm Repeater	443.425	+5 MHz	107.2 PL

**Club Net: 8pm on Sunday, 2 and 1-1/4 Meter Repeaters!**



## Classes and Exams

The following amateur radio clubs conduct license exams throughout the year. Many clubs allow walk-ins but pre-registration will insure an exam is available for you when you attend.

Club Name	Contact Person	Phone	Email
Ford Amateur Radio League	Bill Boyke	313-805-8877	wboyke@ford.com
South Lyon ARC	Christian Anderson	248-437-3088	K8VJ@arr.net
Motor City ARC	Don Novak	734-281-7030	K8THU@arrl.net
Hazel Park ARC	Jerry Begel	248-543-2284	w9npi@comcast.net
USECA ARC	Joseph Kennedy	586-977-7222	N8OZ@arrl.net
ARROW Assn	Roger Place	734-663-4625	merrogplace@aol.com

Some of the above clubs also conduct license classes. Please contact them for additional information.



## LARC VE Exam Sessions

The Livonia Amateur Radio Club is pleased to announce that the following dates are available for VE sessions. Exams will be Thursdays at 7:00pm at the Livonia Civic Center Library by appointment only. Contact information is [mwa8dhp@arrl.net](mailto:mwa8dhp@arrl.net). The dates for exams are: Oct 18, Dec 13.



## 2012-2013 Club Officers

Please contact any of the officers for information regarding the Ford Amateur Radio League, or go to the club website at [www.k8utt.org](http://www.k8utt.org) for current events and activities.

<b>President</b>	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
<b>Vice President</b>	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
<b>Secretary</b>	John Turowski	N8NWA	313-258-1996
<b>Repeater Chair</b>	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
<b>K8UTT Trustee</b>	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
<b>Activity Chair</b>	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
<b>Bolt Editor</b>	Rajiv Paul	KD8LHF	313-244-2515



## Club Meetings

The Ford Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, except for Christmas and the summer months July and August. The meetings are held at 6:30 PM at the Ford Engine Manufacturing & Development Offices (EMDO) building. EMDO (located at 17000 Southfield Rd, Allen Park, MI) is south of I-94 on the east side of Southfield just north of the Allen Park Municipal offices. Park in the front of the building and come into the main lobby at the side. Knock on the inside door on the right if no one is standing there to let you in.



**Next Club Meeting: September 13, 2012 at 6:30PM**  
**Topic: Field Day Review**

**The Ford Amateur Radio League**  
**PO Box 2711**  
**Dearborn, MI 48123**