



## President's Notes, March 2013

Well, 2013 seems to be moving along pretty quickly. It's hard to believe that it's March already. In a few short weeks – or maybe in just a few days, depending on when you're reading this – will be the Marshall and Toledo swaps; a month after that comes the Milford swap and the Michigan QSO Party, and then we have Dayton Hamvention in May. After having a conflict last year, I plan to go this year – that is, if we can find a hotel room. My uncle Bill, K8WA, and I had been able to make our room reservations for the Four Days in May event a month or two in advance, but last year, the reservation process was changed to allow reservations eleven months in advance, and the rooms were all gone when last I checked.

Big thanks to Dave, N8HKU, for coming through at the last minute with that Bluetooth presentation. As you may remember, we were supposed to have a presentation from James, W8ISS, on VHF and UHF contesting. Well, James contacted me in advance of the meeting to inform me that, due to changes in his work schedule, he couldn't make the meeting to give the presentation. Unfortunately, I missed seeing his e-mail, so when I sent him a reminder note about the meeting, only to have him send me a reminder that he wasn't going to be there, I was quite surprised. Fortunately, Dave was able to pull together that Bluetooth presentation on short notice, and it was well received. Thanks again, Dave!

At this writing, I do not know if Murray, KE8UM, has been able to retrieve the 2 meter repeater and begin repairs. After discussions with the building security manager, we have sent another letter to hotel management describing our public service nature and our relationship with the Ford Motor Company. Receipt of this letter should have started a process that will result in our regaining access to the repeater.

This month's meeting will be back on its regularly scheduled date of the second Thursday of the month. March 14 is not a major holiday, although it is Pi Day (3/14). It is the month before elections, so start thinking about whom you would like to nominate as officers for the next year. For our presentation topic, it will either be W8ISS's postponed presentation from February (if there are any presentation materials James can send me) or a presentation on W3AO's Field Day setup for 2009.

73,  
Roger, KD8CSE

**Ford Amateur Radio League** (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club)**Club Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2013****Minutes, FARL Club Meeting - Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

Meeting was held one week later due to Valentine's Day.

Meeting was called to order by Roger, KD8CSE

at 18:36 (6:36p.m.)

6 members were present.

1 guest was present (Joyce - KD8IAR)

**Minutes from prior meeting:**

Prior minutes from Jan. were reviewed and approved.

**Treasurers Report:**

Pat, WD8JDZ read the report. Motion to except as read. It was approved as read.

NOTE: Dues are coming up!

**Board of Directors Meeting:** No Meeting

**Committee Reports:****Repeaters:**

Dave, N8HKU had phone contact with Dir of Eng. at the hotel. They are looking for a letter stating our affiliation with Ford Motor Co. and community service. As soon as sale is complete, we should be able to get up and do necessary repairs. More info located on club website.

The 440 repeater is still in need of a new antenna.

The 220 is working good.

Remember the Sunday night net. (On hold until repeater is repaired)

**Education and Training:**

Nothing new to report. Plans for future classes will be announced at a later date.

**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:** None.

**New Business:**

James W8ISS wants to know if anyone has interest of doing the Michigan QSO party from Lake Erie Metro Park?

LARC sends invite to anyone interested in doing Michigan QSO party from Livonia EOC. Contact Mike N8MR prior to get your name on the access list Or you will not be permitted in.

Volunteers needed for the Corktown 5K run march 10<sup>th</sup>. Info on website.

Toledo Swap Mar 17<sup>th</sup>

Milford swap Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>

Dayton May 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>

Topics needed for next meeting. Contact Roger, KD8CSE or Dave, N8HKU

**Break:** 18:57(6:57p.m.)

**Presentation:** Dave, N8HKU did a program on Blue Tooth technology.

More info on website.

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



## Montana Governor Signs Legislation to Protect Mobile Amateur Radio Operations from Distracted Driving Regulations - ARRL

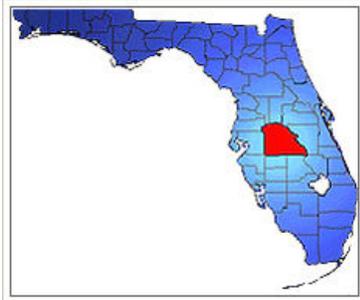
On February 28, Montana Governor Steve Bullock (D) signed House Bill 148 into law. Montana State Representative Pat Connell, WA7PDC, had submitted the bill -- [Clarifying Local Government Authority to Regulate Amateur Radio Operations](http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2013/hb0199/HB0148_1.pdf) ([http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2013/hb0199/HB0148\\_1.pdf](http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2013/hb0199/HB0148_1.pdf)) -- on the 2013 Montana legislative docket in order to protect Amateur Radio operators in Montana from distracted driving laws. The new law prohibits local governments from regulating licensed Amateur Radio operations from a motor vehicle and also establishes a 100-foot by-right height below which local jurisdictions may not regulate Amateur Radio towers.

“Over the past few years, many of the larger Montana cities have enacted laws to prohibit the use of mobile telecommunication devices while a motor vehicle is in motion,” explained Rod Jackson, AE7JJ, Public Affairs Officer for the Great Falls [Montana] Area Amateur Radio Club. “These actions were taken to stem what was perceived as a safety concern from the distractions of trying to carry on a mobile phone call or send a text message while trying to drive the vehicle. Each time these new regulatory actions were under consideration, the drafters always tried to include mobile Amateur Radio operators in the same group as the typical cell phone user.”

Jackson told the ARRL that many radio amateurs from across the state came to the capital to testify in support of HB 148 in both the House and Senate committees: “The bill received wide support during the process, including an official endorsement from the Montana Association of Counties. Their representative cited the numerous benefits that Amateur Radio operators bring to their communities, in particular Amateur Radio’s critical role in providing emergency communications support during times of disaster.”

ARRL Montana Section Manager-elect George Forsyth, AA7GS, testified in front of both committees in support of the bill. “House Bill 148 is a great step forward in settling issues that have kept Montana Amateur Radio operators on the defensive for the last several years,” he said. “This bill provides reasonable protections for Amateur Radio operators who are considerate, caring and involved members of their communities.”

While HB 148 does not affect antenna installations in those areas designated as historic districts or those areas covered by agreed-upon covenants, Jackson explained that it does provide the vast majority of Montana hams “a good measure of protection from overzealous local government actions.”



### **Florida Hams Prove that Ham Radio Works When Cell Phones Don't - ARRL**

After a day of exploring the Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area -- which covers 50,692 protected acres in Florida's Lake, Polk and Sumter Counties -- with his grandson, Joe Cody, KE4WDP, of Winter Haven, Florida, saw that the roads were flooding and becoming hazardous.

As he tried to drive out of the area, Cody's small pick-up truck got bogged down in the mud. Since he was out of cell phone range, Cody tried calling for help on the Dade City 146.880 repeater. Richard Parker, KF4ORW, of Dade City, Florida, heard the call and answered.

After hearing the situation, Parker called 911 in Pasco County, who put him in touch with the dispatch in neighboring Polk County. Cody passed his location on to Parker, who in turn passed it on to the Polk County Sherriff's Office. "Polk County 911 took over trying to get help," Parker said. "They called me back several times for more information and I was able to relay information from Joe to them. Then Ted Bulmanski, W4TKB, who is also from Dade City, started monitoring and copying Joe's information."

About 30 minutes later, Parker saw a helicopter fly over and around Cody's position, and after another 30 minutes, Cody radioed back on the repeater, saying he was on his way home -- thanks to a Lake County Deputy in a Sherriff's Office truck that had a winch. "We learned that Joe was eight miles inside Lake County," Parker explained. "That's why the Lake County Sherriff's Office responded instead of the Polk County authorities. The Polk County Sherriff's Office called me back to say that the helicopter from Lake County found the truck inside Lake County and sent both a deputy from Lake County, as well as a Fish and Game Officer and winched him out of the mud. They called me back to thank us for assisting the stranded pair. Ham radio still works when other forms of communications don't." -- Thanks to ARRL West Central Florida Section Public Information Coordinator Kevin Poorman, KV4CT, for the information.



## Ham Radio in Hollywood: Last Man Standing to Feature Amateur Radio Storyline – ARRL

In an episode tentatively scheduled to air Friday, March 15, the hit ABC comedy Last Man Standing -- starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT -- will [feature a secondary ham radio storyline](http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-last-man-standing-to-feature-ham-radio-in-upcoming-episode) (<http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-last-man-standing-to-feature-ham-radio-in-upcoming-episode>). This is the first time that the show will highlight Amateur Radio in its plot, showing various cast members on the air and communicating via ham radio.

In Episode 217 -- called "The Fight" -- Mike's daughter Mandy (played by Molly Ephraim), gets her cell phone taken away as punishment. She discovers Mike's home shack in the basement and uses ham radio to make faraway friends. According to *Last Man Standing* Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, the home shack is a brand new set built just for this episode. The ARRL provided many of the awards and certificates -- including 5 Band DXCC, 5 Band Worked All States, 5 Band Worked All Continents, VUCC (for 50 MHz), the Diamond DXCC Challenge and the Morse Code Proficiency Certificate -- seen on Mike Baxter's home shack wall.

Two other regular cast members -- Mike's boss Ed Alzate (played by Hector Elizondo) and Mike's co-worker Kyle Anderson (played by Christoph Sanders) -- will also have Amateur Radio call signs and be shown on the radio.

"As a ham, I am very excited to be able to have an episode that presents our hobby in an upbeat and positive way," Amodeo told the ARRL. "As a television producer, I am pleased to present a very funny episode for our more than 7 million viewers. This episode will feature more ham gear than seen in mainstream movies such as *Frequency*, *Contact* and *Super 8* -- all great films that had Amateur Radio in them. It's worth noting that although hams will enjoy the episode, it was written with our 7 million non-ham viewers in mind. Please be prepared for some inconsistencies related to Amateur Radio, but enjoy the show nevertheless."

*Last Man Standing* is produced by 20th Century Fox for the ABC Television Network and airs on Friday nights at 8 PM Eastern and Pacific and 7 PM Central.



## 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.



## 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	313-405-2573



## 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: March 14, 2013 at 6:30PM**  
**Topic: TBD**

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