



President's Notes, November 2012

So what has happened this past month? Our 2 meter repeater's been out of commission; the Free Press Marathon has been run; and the Tigers have made the World Series, only to lose to the Giants. My uncle Bill, K8WA, operated bike mobile for the marathon, trailing behind the runners, and got to ride his bike through the tunnel, a very rare event.

Now for the repeater news. The good news is that the 2 meter repeater is back in operation; the output of the power amplifier had failed. Thanks to Murray, KE8UM, for repairing it and getting it back in operation. The other news may be good or bad: will we be able to remain in our current location? The hope is that we will, but that's far from certain at press time. As of November 7, the building that is our current location is still open.

In the last column, I had lamented the possible end to the Hazel Park hamfest, because there was no mention of it on the ARRL website or on the Hazel Park club's website. We need lament no more, for the fest is indeed on. It's now prominently mentioned on the club's website, although it's still not mentioned on the ARRL site. Perhaps that will be corrected in time for the fest. I wonder why it took so long to be confirmed? Now the only thing we'll need to worry about is whether there will be a snowstorm that day.

The presentation for this month will be from Rich, K8RMM, on the Raspberry Pi computer system. Don't forget: we need presenters for next year's meetings. Something to keep in mind when doing a presentation: if it relies on sound, then bring your own speakers. We can't control the audio in the meeting room unless we use our own speakers. During last month's presentation, I had to make running commentary on the video we were watching, and it was a good thing I had watched the video beforehand so that I could do the commentary. That's not a practice we want to make standard, ha ha!

One more thing: we'll be selecting the location for our annual Christmas dinner, so if you have a strong preference for a location, be sure to state it at the meeting. Hope to see you all there – at the meeting and at the dinner!

73,
Roger, KD8CSE



Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club)

Club Meeting Minutes – October 11, 2012

Minutes, FARL Club Meeting - Oct 11th, 2012

Meeting was called to order by Roger, KD8CSE
at 18:33 (6:33p.m.)
7 members were present.

Minutes from prior meeting:

Prior minutes from Sept. were reviewed and approved.

Treasurers Report:

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

Board of Directors Meeting: No Meeting

Committee Reports:

Repeaters:

The 2 mtr repeater is down for repair.
220 and 440 are operating about the same.

The Hyatt location is up in the air since the contract fell through. Stay Tuned.

Dave, N8HKU will be checking on the 440 repeater location.

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 started training sessions on 10/11/2012 at Bldg #5 Thursdays between 11 & 12

There were 7 students at the last session with one upgrading to General Exam will possibly be beginning in December.

Possible start training sessions this spring at the Ford Yacht Club.

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:

L'anse Creuse swap Sunday Dec. 2nd 2012

Allen County/Fort Wayne swap Nov. 17th & 18th.

Time to start thinking about Christmas dinner.

Mexican Fiesta was mentioned. Any suggestions, plus forward them to Roger, KD8CSE or Dave, N8HKU. Will discuss more next meeting.

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

Presentation: Roger, KD8CSE gave an over view on ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding) or International Fox Hunting.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:26(7:26p.m.)



FCC Rejects Maryland Ham's Plan for Amending Message Forwarding System Rules - ARRL

On Monday, November 5, the FCC issued a letter dismissing a Petition for Rulemaking (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1772A1.pdf) filed in February 2012 by Rolan Clark, W3FDK, of Adamstown, Maryland. In his Petition, Clark had asked the FCC to amend Section **97.219** (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title47-vol5/pdf/CFR-2011-title47-vol5-sec97-219.pdf>), specifying that control operators of the first forwarding station in a message forwarding system of stations should not be obligated to authenticate the identity of a station from which the message forwarding system accepts messages, and that the first forwarding station should not accept accountability for any violative content of the messages put into the system.

Clark held that the control operator of all forwarding stations in a message forwarding system should have the same obligation as the control operator of a voice repeater that retransmits a message that violates the FCC rules. Clark specifically asked that the phrase "except as noted in paragraph (d) of this section, for stations participating in a message forwarding system" be removed from Section 97.219(c), and that Section 97.219(d) be removed completely. Section 97.219(d) currently provides that for those amateur stations that participate in message forwarding systems, the control operator of the first forwarding station must either authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system, or accept accountability for any violation of the Part 97 rules contained in messages that it retransmits to the system.

"In your *Petition*, you state that you believe that the control operator of the first forwarding station in a message forwarding system 'should have the same standing as

[the control operator of a repeater that retransmits inadvertent communications that violate the rules] because the intent to accomplish communications consisting of text and/or voice communications is the same,” the FCC stated in its denial. “You also state that Section 97.219(d) ‘is ambiguous as it gives no direction to the method and degree of processes and or procedures needed to define the degree of ‘authenticate,’ and implies that there would be a visually obtainable copy of the suspected violative transmission else it becomes hearsay.”

Clark, in his February 2012 *Petition*, proposed to address the differences between a message forwarding system and a repeater by conforming Section 97.219 to Section [97.205\(g\)](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title47-vol5/pdf/CFR-2011-title47-vol5-sec97-205.pdf) (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title47-vol5/pdf/CFR-2011-title47-vol5-sec97-205.pdf>) “to require that the originator of a message that is entered into a message forwarding system be the only licensee responsible for the content of the message.”

The Commission reminded Clark that in April 1994, it had [amended the Amateur Service rules to accommodate the operation of high speed message forwarding systems](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-94-76A1.pdf) (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-94-76A1.pdf), while retaining safeguards to prevent misuse. “[The April 1994 *Report & Order*] noted that the development of digital technology had resulted in thousands of amateur operators voluntarily linking their individually licensed stations together to form easily accessible high volume, high speed *ad hoc* message forwarding systems,” the FCC stated in its denial. “It also noted that, under the then-current Section 97.103(a) of the rules, each station licensee and control operator was accountable for the proper operation of the station which required, in effect, the control operator of every forwarding station to review each message for improper content prior to its retransmission.”

According to the FCC, it amended the rules in 1994 to accommodate the Amateur Service community’s desire “to operate high speed message forwarding systems by adding Section 97.219, which provided that the control operators of intermediate forwarding stations, other than the first forwarding station, would not be held accountable when their stations retransmitted improper communications inadvertently. It noted that holding accountable the control operators of the first forwarding stations, but not control operators of intermediate forwarding stations, would facilitate high speed message forwarding yet retain a degree of protection against abuse. It also agreed with commenters that the accommodations for message forwarding systems should not apply to other operating activities such as repeaters and auxiliary stations,

and it decided to leave questions regarding how to authenticate the identity of the originating station to the designers of the systems.”

When it considered amending the rules in 1994, the FCC stated that it considered comments arguing that “the obligation of the control operator of the first forwarding station should be only to establish the identity of the station originating the message and that it was not necessary to hold any control operator of a forwarding station accountable for improper communications.” Saying that because these systems can be an “easy target for misuse by uncooperative operators and non-licensees, and it can be difficult to establish after the fact that a particular station originated a fleeting high speed digital transmission,” the FCC maintained that there must be “ongoing oversight of the system.”

The FCC decided in 1994 that the control operators of the first forwarding stations are in the “best position to provide such oversight, because they are the stations that accept, on behalf of the system, messages from originating stations.” The FCC declined to hold the control operator of the first forwarding station accountable for retransmitting improper communications, but rather, required that the licensee of the first forwarding station either authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system or accepts accountability for the content of the message.

“Thus, the Commission considered and rejected requirements such as you propose in your *Petition* when it adopted the message forwarding system rules in 1994,” the FCC told Clark. “Your present *Petition* does not demonstrate or even suggest that any relevant circumstances have changed such as to merit reconsideration of this decision. Your current proposal does not demonstrate that revising this rule as requested would provide the ongoing oversight of message forwarding systems that must be present. To the contrary, your proposal asks for an accommodation for message forwarding systems that commenters said should not apply to these systems.”



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. The dates for exams are: 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 for current events and activities.

President	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
Vice President	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Treasurer	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
Secretary	John Turowski	N8NWA	313-258-1996
Repeater Chair	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
K8UTT Trustee	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Activity Chair	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
Bolt Editor	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: November 08, 2012 at 6:30PM
Topic: Raspberry PI by Rich, K8RMM

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