



# L. A. R. S. Laurel Amateur Radio Society

## An A.R.R.L. Affiliated Organization

March 1, 2010

Volume XX, Number 3

L. A. R. S. Lines, the newsletter of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society, is published monthly in written and in email format as a service to its membership and to the amateur radio community. Officers of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society for the year 2010 are:

Peter Rock KJ4ND ..... President  
Alan S. Smith, Jr. KF4ZUX ..... Vice-President  
Stanley Baker KD4ERF..... Secretary / Treasurer

### *Minutes of the February Meeting*

The February meeting of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society was called to order by its president, Dr. Peter Rock KJ4ND at 7:35 p.m., local time, at the *Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant* near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 of Interstate 75 at London, KY. Sixteen were present for the meeting.

As the first order of business, Peter KJ4ND called for the treasurer's report. Stan KD4ERF gave the report which was accepted as given.

As the next item of business, Peter KJ4ND updated the club on the status of the advanced severe weather training by the members of the Jackson Office of the National Weather Service. They reported that they were in the process of revising and updating the advanced course and that it should be ready later this fall with a possibility that it might be ready by late summer.

The next item of business was the discussion of the plans for the club to organize a simplex net for possible use in emergency situations. Jim WA4HAR distributed some information and suggestions for running such a net and suggested a Sunday afternoon for a general time frame for the net using a time of 1 to 2 hours as a time limit and using a chosen frequency. It could be like a contest with a certificate, or something like for the winner. More information will be available after the March 4, 2010 regular club meeting.

*The V. E. Testing committee will be proceeding to get the new group approved as soon as possible. This is a service that we have missed greatly since our former director of the testing, Mr. Carl Patton K4QKS became a silent key. The club will be organized under the testing program of the ARRL.*

*Jim N4ICU moved to adjourn the meeting. Marvin AG4RE seconded the motion and Peter KJ4ND adjourned the business meeting at 7:54 p.m., local time, to a good discussion while finishing the great Mexican food at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant.*

----Minutes by Stanley Baker KD4ERF

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Help the Laurel Amateur Radio Society go GREEN and save a tree as well as reduce our postage expenses. If you can email me [stanleybaker@roadrunner.com](mailto:stanleybaker@roadrunner.com) or [sbaker@sebaker.com](mailto:sbaker@sebaker.com) and give me your email address, I will place you on our distribution list and you will receive your email version of the L.A.R.S. Lines Newsletter a few days earlier.

Also, remember that the L.A.R.S. dues or \$15.00 for 2010 is due and payable. We have held this amount steady for a few years in a poor national economy. Everything that you can do will help to ensure that we do not have to raise it next year.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Stanley Baker KD4ERF, Secretary/Treasurer

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### *The March Monthly Meeting of the Laurel Amateur Radio Society Is Scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 2010*

The L.A.R.S. monthly meeting for March is scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., local time, at the *Fiesta Mexicana*

Restaurant near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 of Interstate 75 at London, KY.

Come out and join us!

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## Observations

By Stanley Baker KD4ERF

In browsing the web, I need to remind you of on site that every amateur radio operator in Kentucky needs to add to their favorites. That important site is overflowing with information and topics that are a necessity for every "ham" to be aware of and utilize to make the hobby more enjoyable and to make every "on-the-air" qso more professional. Just browse over to the following: <http://www.kyham.net> . As a starting suggestion, I would suggest their "Links" and "News" on the homepage.

There is also a site for all you "QRP & CW" buffs. The organization is "The North American QRP CW Club" whose homepage is <http://home.windstream.net/yoel/> . The admission to the club is free online and it takes only a few minutes to register.

Another site that gives a lot of important information is <http://www.arrl.org> . Here you will find the latest information about amateur radio, including links to amateur radio links to the operations in Chile after the devastating 8.8 earthquake in that area. In late March, the ARRL plans to give their site a new look. Be sure to check out the new site when it goes online.

A major update of the L.A.R.S. web site is currently under construction to provide a faster loading site and to separate the links into sub-topics. Also, the new site will incorporate new code to make the site much easier to navigate but still retain the information. The Fox Hunting material will be re-organized under a sub-page of its own in such a way that it will contain a running history of our fox hunts and a sub-page of Tips and Schematics for those wishing to build antenna projects or other fox hunting equipment.

Check out this page on the ARRL site: <http://wedothatradio.wordpress.com/> . This is a most informative page called "Ham Radio in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is a blog covering a very large number of topics and is an excellent way to learn about amateur radio.

Do not forget the other great source of

amateur radio information that you will find at <http://www.grz.com> . On that site you will find links to over 4,000 articles and a multitude of news and information about almost all aspects of amateur radio. This site has an online swap meet and even links to practice tests and study guides.

Let your computer help you to learn about the many aspects of our wonderful hobby and make it more enjoyable for the entire family.

Come out to the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant and be with us at our March 4<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting. We begin at 7:30 p.m., local time, and several of us arrive early to enjoy their excellent food.

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## FCC Call Sign Update for Region 4

Extra – AJ4WD

Technician, & General – KJ4SPE

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**Next Meeting Date:** Thursday March 4, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., E.S.T, at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant near the Kroger and Advance Auto Parts store opposite the new Dino's (formerly Laurel Landing) at traffic lights #6 of the 192 By-Pass off Exit 38 of Interstate 75 at London, KY.

**Mid-Month Meeting:** Thursday, March 18, 2010, at 12:00 noon, at Fazoli's on the 192 By-Pass at Exit 38 of Interstate 75 at London, KY.

**Membership:** \$15.00 /year

## L. A. R. S. Lines

### Laurel Amateur Radio Society

Peter Rock (KJ4ND) .....President

Alan S. Smith, Jr. (KF4ZUX) ..Vice-President

Stanley E. Baker (KD4ERF).....Sec/Treas.

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**DO NOT FORGET THE L. A. R. S. EMERGENCY NET EACH SUNDAY EVENING AT 9:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, ON THE WD4KWV 146.61 REPEATER!!!!**

**DO NOT FORGET THE SOUTHEAST SKYWARN WEATHER NET EVERY OTHER (2nd) THURSDAY EVENING AT 9:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, ON THE KG4LKY 146.925MHz (-)79.7 PL REPEATER LINKED TO THE 444.275MHz (+)79.7 PL KF4IFC REPEATER AND ECHO NODE 16883 !!! THIS NET IS CONDUCTED BY TONY W4WXR.**