

# Lanierland ARC W4ABP Newsletter

<http://www.lanierlandarc.org>

January 2008

## President's Corner

Well. 2008 is here so let's get rolling. The first LARC meeting will be Tuesday, January 22, at Curt's Restaurant on Mundy Mill Road. We will meet to eat at 6:00 PM and the club meeting will follow. We hope to see you there for the fellowship and camaraderie.

I'm not sure what our program will be. It seems like several obstacles have popped up with arranging a program. The speaker for the program on Iraq has cancelled. Mac Payne, WD4MP was moved up on the program calendar to make his presentation in January instead of February. Murphy's Law interceded again with Mac having a family emergency in Texas and had to change his presentation date. I'm sure that our Activities & Program Manager, Roger Gibson, is working feverishly behind the scenes to have us a suitable program for this meeting.

After more than 40 years being a "Ham," I still find this a hobby filled with many facets of know-how and experimentation. This makes it both challenging and fun. If you don't stay abreast of all of the changes in technology you can really "fall behind" and I mean in a hurry, sort of like a brick falling. One thing that has greatly enhanced our communications capabilities is the internet. I would estimate that 90 percent of all active amateurs use the internet to compliment their amateur stations in some way or another. The internet and new technologies in amateur radio are sometimes challenging to say the least. Experimenting with new technologies and ideas is keeping with the true spirit of amateur radio. We should all accept some of the new technologies as a challenge to learn and perhaps open up a new way of doing things. Where would amateur radio and communications technology be today if the early pioneers like Guglielmo Marconi, Lee DeForest, Edwin Armstrong had set back and waited for something to just happen. If that had happened we would still be in the "spark gap" era. That's what amateur radio is all about in a nutshell - experimenting and having fun. Let's make a commitment to do our part to keep amateur radio fun and exciting. We hope that you will be able to meet with us on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at Curt's and share in the food, fun, fellowship and door prizes as we start the year for LARC. Hope to see you there.  
Terry, W4TL

#### “NOTE FROM THE EDITOR”

The LARC newsletter is back and once again set to be published once per month and will include news, information and items of interest for our members. This publication is to the club, by the club and for the club. Its success is dependent on information sharing. I encourage you to give input. Please, if you have an article, news, or just want to share a story or experience, send the information to [w4djg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4djg@bellsouth.net) and I'll get it in the next issue. My plan is to shoot for publication the first week of each month. Cut off for including your input for the upcoming month will be the last week of each month. Together, we can make OUR newsletter something everyone can look forward to. In addition, each newsletter will be archived onto our web site [www.lanierlandarc.org](http://www.lanierlandarc.org) and can be found under the “newsletter” tab on the navigation bar.

73 to all,  
Doyle, W4DJG

## Your New 2008 Officers and Committees

President: [Terry Jones, W4TL](#)

Treasurer: [John Brandon, KE4PCF](#)

Vice President: [Philip Loggins, K4PDL](#)

Activities Manager: [Roger Gibson, WB4T](#)

Secretary: [Mike Hall, N4HGO](#)

### Directors

3 Year [Doyle Gantt, W4DJG](#)

2 Year [Larry Tyson, W4WLT](#)

1 Year [Bob Scott, KG4NJC](#)

## 2008 Committees

Repeater Committee [Terry Jones, W4TL](#) (Chair) & Executive Committee

Training Director [Ed Cravey, KF4HPY](#)

Web Site Manager/Editor-Newsletter Editor [Doyle Gantt, W4DJG](#)

Hamfest Committee [Philip Loggins K4PDL](#) (Chair), [John Brandon KE4PCF](#), [Roger Gibson, WB4T](#)

Property Control Officer [Lamar Grier, K4JLG](#)

Field Day Committee [Larry Tyson, W4WLT](#) (Chair), [Bob Scott KG4NJC](#), [Roger Gibson WB4T](#), [John Brandon KE4PCF](#)

Public Relations Officer [Mike Hall](#) (Chair) [N4HGO](#)

Membership Committee [Roger Gibson WB4T](#) (Chair), [Doyle Gantt W4DJG](#), [Mike Hall N4HGO](#)

Hall County EOC Committee [Doyle Gantt W4DJG](#) (Chair), [Philip Loggins K4PDL](#), [John Brandon KE4PCF](#)

SET Scheduling [John Brandon KE4PCF](#)

Nominating Committee for 2009 "Officers"

[Perry Roper KO4RD](#)(Chair), [Wallace Beggs, KF4OQY](#) and [Bob Scott, KG4NJC](#)

**ARES news** from Susan ,AF4FO:

**Statewide ARES Meeting 2008:** "OK, guys, you can mark it on your calendars now. Thanks to Lowry Rouse KM4Z, our GEMA DEC, the date for our statewide meeting has been set for Saturday, January 26. It will be held, once again, at the Public Service Training facility in Forsyth, and Lowry has reserved the Auditorium from 11AM until 4:30 PM for our general meeting, a classroom from 9AM until noon for our DEC meeting, and another classroom from 10 AM until noon for EMCOMM.

"Another note on the statewide meeting. There will be NO EmComm testing this time around. Time simply wasn't on our side. Turns out, new test booklets are being released for all three levels of the EmComm courses, and as of January first, this new material must be used for any testing. That doesn't leave much time for proper preparation, so we've decided to drop it. Also, after the first of the year, the cost for taking one of these tests will be increasing to \$14, to bring it in line with VE testing."

The first Sunday of every month, at 4PM, is the metro area ARES net, on the 146.820 repeater. (And many thanks to the Atlanta ARC for the use of their repeater.)

Also, the first Sunday of every month is "emergency power" day on the statewide ARES net, on 3.975 MHz, at 5PM. So far, a very high percentage of check-ins have been running emergency power.

### **Interesting Stuff**

**In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb"**

**Many years ago in Scotland , a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden" ...and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.**

**The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV were Fred and Wilma Flintstone.**

**Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.**

**Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.**

**Coca-Cola was originally green.**

**It is impossible to lick your elbow.**

**The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work:  
Alaska**

**The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...)**

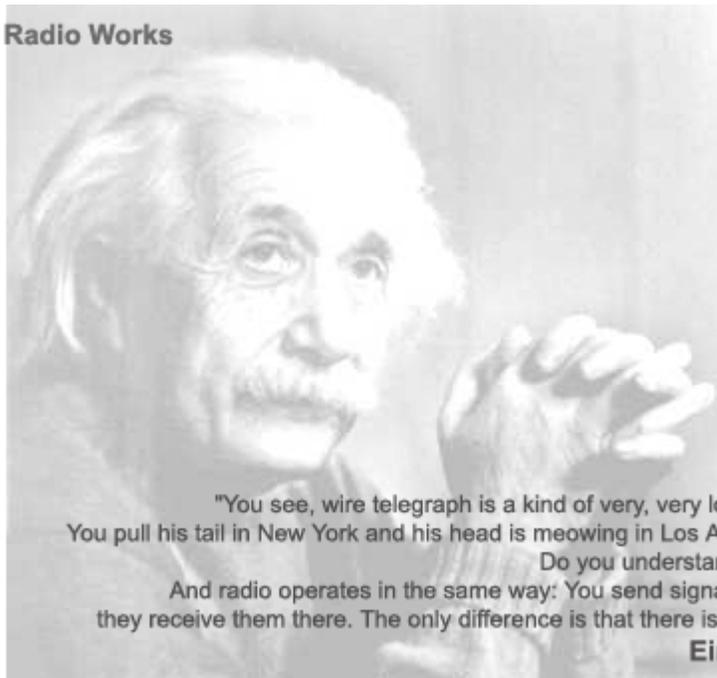
**The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%**

**Did you try to lick your elbow??????**

**"Point to Ponder"**

Doyle Gantt, W4DJG

## How Radio Works



"You see, wire telegraph is a kind of very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates in the same way: You send signals here; they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat"  
**Einstein.**

I found this caption to be rather interesting. Famous (among other things) for his mathematical formula  $E=mc^2$  (=  $0.111 \times 300,000,000 \times 300,000,000 = 10,000,000,000,000,000$  Joules) (Got it?) Mr. Einstein clearly didn't understand how telegraph/radio works. Or, maybe he did and was being funny on that particular day. In either case, ponder this. If IQ is measured by educational achievement, does this mean we're all genius in our particular interest of study? Probably not but it is something to think about.

In 1921 Einstein was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics, "for his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect.

## "Mystery Solved"

Ed Cravey, KF4HPY

**Hi All** This is copy of an Email I sent to fellow SWL's I was working with on seeking a DX find "Voice of Vietnam" being relayed in English by the Russian transmitter station at Krasnodar in the Kuban district. John Carver and I worked on this puzzle for weeks, along with other SWL's shortly before the turn of the century.

OK, are you still with me on this, the Great Circle program? We all should be able to convert coordinates from degrees, minutes, and seconds to simple degrees and decimals. Then we learned about North and its oddities. Now it is time to bring it all together. Reviewing; the last papers everyone sent to me: gave the locations of both distant and local stations, and the transmitted beam bearing from the transmitter. Lacking, is a means to solve the Great Circle Bearing problem, using math. What is needed is a trigonometry program to work the tedious math with ease. I was given a program written by our own John Carver, well written and simple. It was a Q-basic program for PC's. As I have a Commodore 64, I started to rewrite John's Program. Before I could finish I found a similar program in an ARRL Antenna Book, written for a TRS-80 Level II computer. So I reworked it as a Commodore C64 offering. Testing, both

programs, the PC and the C64, showed them to be accurate. Results: differing in only walking distances; after plotting azimuths over 10,400 miles or, 16,800 kilometers. So with great programs on hand, I worked the puzzle of the Russian Relay. As you recall, Krasnodar/Armavir is located at 45 degrees N. and 40 degrees E. I am at 34 degrees, 17 minutes, 17 seconds E; and 83 degrees, 49 minutes, 11 seconds W. This is the locator for the town of Gainesville GA, USA; the site of the 1996 Olympic Rowing Venue. That is the flatwater event; whitewater events were held elsewhere. Using both programs in turn gave interesting results after using the decimal program to prepare to use the Great Circle programs.

Using the Great Circle Decimal program, we found the Gainesville coordinates to be 34.288 N and 83.82 degrees W; Krasnodar at 45.0 N and 40.0 degrees E. In my program East and South are in the NEGATIVE. I entered these figures in each of the Great Circle programs. The results were almost the same. The programs may have rounded off the results or the formulas had constants rounded off. The John Carver figures were 36 degrees bearing (my antenna heading) short path. 216 degrees heading, long path. Distances: 9542 km., the short path. Also, 30494 km, the long path for GVL-KRAS. As John Carver's program gives the figures on the long path at the same time, I will include them also. KRAS-GVL; 317 degrees, their short path: 137 degrees, their long path. Distances: 9542 km. short path, 30494 km. the long path. Now I loaded my own program into my Commodore 64. Using the same coordinates gave the following results. Bearing, 36.08 degrees, distance: 9533.63km. (9 km less) ; 5148.16 nautical miles, or 5923.91 miles GVL-KRAS. To figure KRAS-

GVL on my C64, one must run the program making KRAS as the local site. This gives a bearing of 316.6 degrees, same distances.

What have we found? Anything? Yes, a great deal! KRAS has a beam to N. America at 315 degrees, confirmed in earlier Emails. Since I am at the short path from KRAS (317) I should be in a good path to receive his signal. The other

people trying to pick up KRAS are on the 40 and the 45th degree parallels at mid 80's to mid 90's longitude. Not too good for them, OK for me. Plugging in other

latitudes and longitudes gave me a town directly in the beam in the state of Georgia. It was Albany GA, to the south of me. My dipole is set up for 48 degrees. As a dipole it has good beam width. So tuning carefully, I could pick it up between 2 other stations at 5940 KHz. There it was, "Voice of Vietnam", in English, at 0100 hours UTC. Case solved and I was the lucky one to be in the beam. I am glad I have kept my C64 program simple so it could be copied and reworked easily.

I have since modified my programs to work in Qbasic on Windows machines. First on a Win 95, then on a Win ME, followed by XP. Lately I have added Qbasic and several Antenna programs to my Vista laptop. Such programs as: DecimalsGC.BAS, Dipoles.BAS, Gctest.BAS, the Great Circle Bearing programs: Azimuth.BAS and Bearing.BAS, Longwire.BAS, Prune.BAS and TrimBAS, TTFD.BAS, Yagi.BAS, and Zepp.BAS. It works for me! The Great Circle program could be enlarged if needed. I lost the John Carver copy of the Great Circle Bearing program when my Win 95 failed. All I have left are the

programs I wrote, as I have the source materials. If you want a copy of any, let me know and I will send you one. You do work DOS still?  
TTYL, Ed KF4HPY, 73

**January Club Meeting, January 22 at Curt's in Oakwood.  
Dinner at 6pm with meeting at 7pm**

### **Meeting Programs**

**January 22 Mac Payne WD4MP *Slide Show of Trip to Alaska and his Radio Ventures (Mac has had to reschedule due to family illness) January's presentation will be posted on our web site as it becomes available)***

**February 26 Chuck Leming W4EDT *MARS net control procedures***

**March 25 Greg Janney *Slide show of his trip to Iraq***

### **LARC dates for 2008 so you can mark your calendars:**

Field Day June 28 & 29  
LARC Hamfest July 12  
LARC Family Picnic October 25  
LARC Christmas Breakfast December 6

### **Experts Say Sun Spot Cycle 24 Here**

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Please visit

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/01/07/100/?nc=1>

to read the full story



## **The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators News:**

The NCVEC has released the new question pool for Extra Class license.

This pool will become effective for examinations given on or after July 1, 2008, and should be in service until June 30, 2012. The pool, which consists of 741 (down from 786) questions and 12 graphics, can be downloaded from the NCVEC Web site in Word, PDF or RTF formats.

Visit the NCVEC website at <http://www.ncvec.org/>

**“For The Record”  
NEW PREFIX FOR BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED**

Bosnia prefix T9A and Herzegovina Prefix T9Z  
have been changed to E7A-E7Z under authority of  
the ITU Secretary-General to be effective November 17, 2007.  
(Darn, now our prefix maps are out of date)

### Lunch Bunch

Every Friday at 11:30 there is a lunch get-together at a local restaurant. The location is announced on the Wednesday night net, our web site under the activities tab and under the calendar icon as well as announced on the 146.67 repeater.

### Repeater Info

146.67 (-) pl 131.8 Hz  
224.840 (-) open  
444.950 (+) 131.8 Hz

### Hall County Nets

#### W4ABP repeater

146.67 (-) 131.8 Hz

Hall County ARES Net, Wednesday @ 20:00

LARC Net Wednesday @20:30

**“Everyone is welcome to check in”**

## Upcoming Events within 250 miles of Gainesville

**23Feb2008**

DALTON HAMFEST #26

Dalton Amateur Radio Club (W4DRC)

<http://W4DRC.com>

**Talk-In:** 145.230 (-) (No Tone)

Contact Harold Jones, N4BD

PO BOX 211

Rocky Face, GA 30740

Phone: 706-673-2291

Email: [n4bd@dalton.net](mailto:n4bd@dalton.net)

## **More Interesting Stuff**

**The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400**

**The average number of people airborne over the U.S. in any given hour:  
61,000**

**Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.**

**The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.**

**The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.**

**Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:**

**Spades - King David**

**Hearts - Charlemagne**

**Clubs -Alexander, the Great**

**Diamonds - Julius Caesar**

$$111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$$

**If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.**

**Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.**

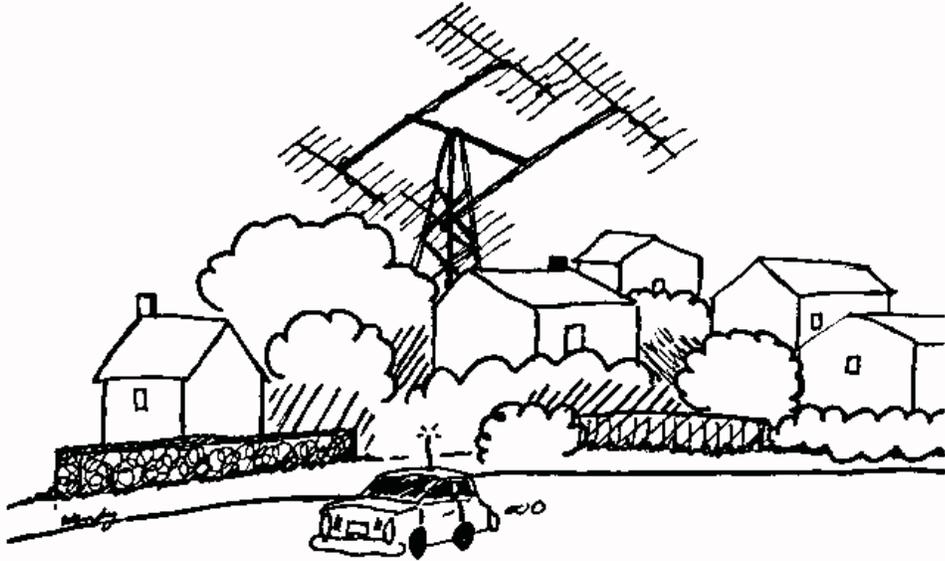
**Q. Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what?**

**A. Their birthplace**

**Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested?**

**A. Obsession**

# “Laughter” Rx For The SOUL



OK, FRED. I'M ON MAPLE STREET. NOW, WHICH  
ONE IS YOUR HOUSE?



## Quote of the Month

*If you're too busy to go fishin you're too busy.*

Jed Clampett

## “Georgia Announces NEW State Tree”

For generations, the Georgia State Tree has been the Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)



After much discussion at the State Capitol, a new species has been chosen to have this honor.

### Our New State Tree



#### Young Adult

The **Orange Construction Barrel** (*Ampulla fabricatio barrelus*) is one of several species of highly specialized plants which have adapted to be able to grow in the most extreme of conditions and is the second most common member of the sub-genus *fabricatio* -- commonly known as the "fabriforms" -- and is prized for its weather-resistance and bioluminescent fruit.



#### Seedling

Roots are very shallow resulting in many being blown or knocked over by passing motorist. However, this species has the ability to pop right back up in short order with the help of DOT.



#### Fully Mature

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*Special thanks to Terry W4TL and Mr. Ed KF4HPY for providing input on very short notice.*