# LARK NEWS December 2022



<u>Livermore Amateur Radio Klub LARK</u> is an ARRL affiliated club dedicated to Public Service Volunteer Emergency Communications. Meetings are once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 9:30AM

<u>NEW VENUE</u>: City of Livermore Meeting Hall 1016 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore CA 94550

Available live via zoom by invitation only. Visitors Welcome Editor: Roberto Sadkowski K6KM

<image>

Beacon at the top of Mount Diablo. Picture reprinted with permission from "Save Mount Diablo"

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### **President's Message**

I want to take this time to thank Bernie NJ6W for making the coffee and picking up the refreshments for monthly meetings, it is appreciated by all who attend. I wanted to let you know that we will be doing the our annual gift exchange at the December 17<sup>th</sup> LARK Holiday meeting, this "White Elephant" gift exchange is when you bring а wrapped item and receive a raffle ticket to which the number will be called and you will choose a wrapped gift and open it in front of all to see, then you will keep your ticket for the drawing for the LARK purchased gift items. This is always fun because out of all this someone will get the 'BRICK' to hold onto for one year. To participate in this fun and exciting event you must be present at the meeting, so we hope to see you for this meeting!

I wanted to let you know that the Events Chairperson (me) is following the upcoming events for 2022, and I have an update: the following events will have happened and completed for this year. Make sure to sign up on the LARK website for these events for which LARK supports when they become available. I encourage you to participate in the monthly Technical Sessions/Meetings that will be on different topics and promising it will be very interesting. Make sure to watch for the schedule of the dates and topics coming out in the Newsletter. I wanted to thank Ron



AD6KV and VE Team for continuing to provide a way for hams to get their testing completed.

Ian W6TCP continues to work on enhancing the repeaters for use by all of us so please report any issues to lan by email.

I encourage you to check in with the LARK Monday, Wednesday (10.10 Windfarms Net), and Thursday night nets, held every week. There are other nets available, and they can be found on the LARK website It is good experience getting on the air. I want to thank Ed Diemer for coordinating the weekly nets. By participating in the nets, you'll hear what is going on in our Ham community We are meeting In-Person at the Livermore City Meeting Hall each month on third Saturday, and we are also offering the meeting on Zoom for those who prefer that way to attend. Wishing you all a safe and healthy holiday season and see you in January 2023. George KG6GEM (kg6wiu1@comcast.net)

### **Notes from the Editor**

The mountains are covered in snow and this poor SOTA operator ran out of peaks nearby. Has to wait until January 1<sup>st</sup> to activate for points. Talking about activations. Last January, together with Bryan: W6CMS and Dave: K3GX, LARK had its first SOTA/POTA/Outdoor activation adventure. We had a lot of fun and hopefully we all learned something.

It might be time to repeat the feast, so stay tuned for a new SOTA//LARK day mid January. Yours truly will send an invitation through the reflector to organize the outing.

In other matters, LARK is going to have the first field trip in guite awhile. We will visit the USS Hornet Radio and room hopefully try those old but effective verticals. I had the privilege and pleasure to spend a night at the Hornet with my family when my kids were doing their Scouts visit. We got to explore many hidden areas of the ship and hear the ghost stories. Lots of history in that ship.

End of the year coming and time to dust off all those unused



items in our Shack and garage. Who knows, somebody will find good use for them and we might find their unused times very valuable. In any case, the white elephant LARK party is a great opportunity to mingle, have fun and Ron does a great job as host and entertainer.

We have lots of very knowledgeable operators in the Club and I encourage all new Members to reach to them for advice if needed.

I still remember my days visiting Clancy N6FQQ who gave me my first tidbits on how to get in the air.

Happy Holidays!

### **Community Events Supported by LARK**

Cinderella Bicycle Classic Saturday, April 15, 2023

The Cinderella Classic, Challenge and Short rides are 65/100/35-mile recreational bicycle ride (not a race) for women & girls only. Males do not ride the Cinderella; they do the organization, support, rest stops and SAGs for the Cinderella's. This event provides the opportunity for all hams of any experience to provide support from different assignments. The assignments are Stationary, SAGs, and Shuttles. Most assignments can be done with a HT. We encourage you to volunteer for this very worthwhile public service event. LARK has supported this event for many years.



Shakeout Day - Nate N8MOR

This year's International ShakeOut Day was October 20, when millions of people worldwide will participate in earthquake drills at work, school, or home.

At 10:20 am Pacific time on 10/20, Livermore Amateur Radio Klub activated our Earthquake net, confirming repeater function as well as simplex function.

This followed our ARES/Monday net approach, and confirmed that we have the ability to respond to crises in the area.

The following individuals participated

October 20, 2022 10:20AM 147.12/145.35 Repeater System

-	-	147.54 Simplex
George	<b>Discovery Bay</b>	X
Ron	Livermore	X
Rick	Dublin	X
Mikhail	Dublin	X
David	Pleasanton	X
Warren	Pleasanton	X
Bill	Pleasanton	X
Sri	Pleasanton	X
Roberto	Livermore	X
Roger	Pleasanton	X
David	Livermore	
Brian	Pleasanton	X
Ed	Dublin	X
Chuck	Livermore	
Alan	Pleasanton	
Jeff	Livermore	X
Greg	Pleasanton	
Tony	Pleasanton	
John	Dublin	X
Nate	lselin, NJ	
Grant	Palo Alto	X (147.54 only)
Rich	Livermore	Net Control
	Ron Rick Mikhail David Warren Bill Sri Roberto Roger David Brian Ed Chuck Alan Jeff Greg Tony John Nate Grant	RonLivermoreRickDublinMikhailDublinDavidPleasantonWarrenPleasantonBillPleasantonSriPleasantonSriPleasantonRobertoLivermoreRogerPleasantonDavidLivermoreBrianPleasantonEdDublinChuckLivermoreAlanPleasantonJeffLivermoreGregPleasantonJohnDublinNateIselin, NJGrantPalo Alto

LARK was the ONLY ham radio group that participated this year in Alameda county. 6

We have received a certificate from the Great Shakeout for our participation.

Special thanks to AD6X for running the net.

## **Board of Directors Meeting Report**



### LARK Board Meeting | November 15, 2022 | Minutes

Attendees: George, Chris, Bernie, Ryan, Jerry, Roger, Nate, Var, David Absent: Ian

#### Call to Order

- 1. Meeting called to order by George at 7:00 PM.
- Treasure's Report Bernie
  - 1. Club funds are good.
  - 2. Membership dues beginning to come in.
  - 3. Rich did a good job selling at Pacificon Swap Meet

#### Repeater Update - Nate

- 1. Ian had a suggestion come in to have the ability to unlink repeaters
- 2. The repeater chair will be the one to decide who has unlink access

#### Meeting Update/Activities for 2022 - Jerry

- 1. No tech meetings.
- 2. November 19th USS Hornet, Geoffery K6ERA, presentation on Hornet Radio Club
- 3. December 3rd trip to the hornet, informal trip and may include access to radio room
- 4. Any ideas can be sent to Jerry.

#### Events – George

- Cinderella 2023 is scheduled for Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 which is the same day as the monthly club meeting and annual elections. We need to consider if we should cancel our regular meeting.
- 2. Propose a change to the bylaws and changes will be presented in January. Bylaw changes would be similar to holding the election within a three-month period
- 3. Board to review changes to bylaws in December

#### Membership - Var

- 1. Membership for 2023 efforts will begin soon.
- 2. Currently 184 members, 56 people have paid

#### December Meeting

- 1. \$500 motion by Nate to spend for prizes and gifts by the club
- 2. White elephant and gift exchange
- Newsletter and November meeting announcement that you must be present at the December meeting to participate in the exchange
- 4. Food and drinks allowed in the meeting room as long as we keep it clean

#### Pacificon

- 1. Swap meet went well
  - 2. QR Code worked well and should be used for other events and activities

#### Adjournment

1. George adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

# **Monthly Meeting Report**



### LARK General Meeting | November 19, 2022 | Minutes

#### Call to Order

- 1. Meeting called to order by George KG6GEM at 9:45 AM.
- 2. George started introductions, first of In-Person attendees and then Zoom attendees.
- 3. In person: 36 /10 on Zoom /5 guests (51 total)

#### Presentation

- 1. Jerry N5KA introduced today's presentation by Geoff K6ERA and his presentation about the USS Hornet Amateur Radio Club HARC and the history of the USS Hornet
- Presentation concluded at 10:22am. Took a meeting break and reconvened at 10:35am

#### Treasure's Report - Bernie NJ6W

- 1. Finances are looking good
- Rich KN6HSR setup a spot at Pacificon Swap Meet and brought in over \$1,100 from equipment sales for the club

#### Activities – Jerry N5KA

- 1. Thanked Geoff for coming in for his presentation about the USS Hornet
- USS Hornet Trip on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> informal field trip at 10:00am and stay as long as you would like. You will be allowed to operate in the radio room. More information to come in the newsletter.
- December: Annual Holiday White Elephant Gift Exchange Party so there will be no speaker, will see more information emailed
- 4. January: Gary NA60 will talk about how do we know if we are getting out.
- 5. February: Lee will talk about propagation
- 6. If you have any suggestions for future meetings, please email Jerry.

#### Events – George KG6GEM

- 1. No remaining events for the rest of the year
- Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 Cinderella Bike Ride confirmed for which LARK will continue to support this event as in years past

#### Newsletter – Roberto K6KM

1. Deadline is Sunday 11/20 for submissions for the newsletter

#### Membership – George KG6GEM

1. Renew memberships now for 2023 see Var KM6TAB

#### Old Business

1. Minutes from September meeting approved unanimously

#### VE Sessions – Ron AD6KV

1. No test sessions today

2. Will have one general test session after the December Meeting

#### ARES - Ron AD6KV

1. Great Shakeout and Actual Earthquake activity got sent to emergency coordinator for ARRL

#### Livermore Airport Day - Ron AD6KV

- 1. Did not happen due to too late of notice
- 2. Participation was light from community this year

#### December Gift Exchange - Ron AD6KV

- 1. Must be present in person to participate in the gift exchange festivities
- 2. Please bring holiday snacks to share with group

#### Meeting Room Changes - George KG6GEM

- 1. Permission from city to bring in food and drinks into meeting room
- 2. Clean up after yourself and avoid spilling

#### Pacificon Report - George KG6GEM

- 1. Booth at Pacificon and had QR code that provided more information about joining
- 2. Swap Meet was very successful MDARC was very appreciative and will continue to provide service

#### Klutz Award Nominations

1. None from the floor

#### Operating

- Roberto K6KM: A few expeditions going on FT8 and CW, 160m not very active, Tonga has been on as well as other islands
- Clancy N6FQQ has a lot of amateur radio equipment he is putting up for sale including HF and VHF antennas and Yaasu FT920 HF, linear beam and other equipment. Interested people can contact him via phone.

#### Adjournment

- 1. George KG6GEM adjourned the meeting at 11:06 AM
- 2. Have a great Thanksgiving!

Minutes submitted by:

Ryan Mahoney (W6RAM)- LARK Secretary

## **USS Hornet Presentation by Geoff: K6ERA**



CVS-12 USS Hornet Museum stationed at the former NAS Alameda, California.

Geoff Abreu, K6ERA, talked about the USS Hornet Museum and the Hornet Amateur Radio Club (HARC). The HARC radio shack NB6GC is stationed on the aircraft carrier USS Hornet moored at the former NAS Alameda.

Geoff is currently the president of HARC. He is the go-to guy for information about becoming a member of HARC or a volunteer on the USS Hornet.

The HARC website is http:// www.nb6gc.org Ham radio operators can join HARC for a \$20/yr membership fee, which includes free boarding of the Hornet and access to the HARC radio shack.

On December 3, 2022, there will be an informal LARK field trip to visit the USS Hornet. The USS Hornet gangway opens at 10:00 PST. Geoff will be there to give a tour of the NB6GC radio shack (which is not open to the general public). Those who want to operate and make contacts from the Hornet will receive a certificate from HARC suitable to put on the wall in your ham shack.



Geoffrey Abreu K6ERA gives a USS Hornet presentation to LARK members at the Livermore City Council Chamber Building on South Livermore Ave. on November 19, 2022.



Geoff K6ERA receives the coveted LARK "Cup" after his presentation about the USS Hornet Museum.

### The Mount Diablo Beacon - Pete KE6ZIW

Reprint from an article to appear in an upcoming MDARC newsletter.

#### Thanks to Pete KE6ZIW for sharing.

As we watch the Mount Diablo Beacon tonight we might remember that on the night of October 30, 2013, a team of MDARC member observers with ham radios, who were spread out near and far in all directions of the greater Bay Area, played a key role in the live process of aligning the large concave back-mirror that aims the Beacon for maximum visibility.

As I remember, the Beacon, which had become rusted and inoperable since being installed on the mountain in 1928, had gone through a roughly two year restoration project initiated by the Save Mount Diablo organization. Our own John Stuart, KM6QX, played a key role in the dismantling, the two year physical restoration, and the ultimate reinstallation of the Beacon on top of the mountain.

As darkness fell on the night of October 30, 2013, the alignment of the Beacon's mirror began. Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, and I were part of a team of 11 MDARC hams located at various locations, and elevations, near and far – as close as the hilltops of Martinez, and as far as Bodega Bay, the Central Valley and Redwood City. Larry was Net Control at the top of the mountain, while the rest of us were providing live description reports as the Beacon was powered up and rotating. The process lasted about 2 ½ hours.

These reports from the observation team were being passed on by Larry to John and the alignment team, who were on the roof of the Mount Diablo Summit Building where the Beacon is located. Based on our reports of about the relative changes in the Beacon's light appearance from the different locations during the evening, the alignment team was making various adjustments to the Beacon's beam-width and down-tilt angle. As adjustments were being made there were some pretty dramatic changes – both to the more steady but dimmer light from the bulb itself that comes around once during every 10 second rotation of the Beacon and lasts about 2 seconds, and to the bright sudden concentrated flash of light in the middle of the sequence when the reflecting concave back-mirror is aimed directly at the observer's location.

We could all hear each other's reports through our radios. It was fascinating how different the observations were from different angles, elevations and distances. Some, who were further away couldn't see the more steady but dimmer light from the bulb itself, but could see the sudden bright flash of the reflecting back-mirror; while others (too who were close and below the mirror's beam) could only see the dimmer light from the bulb itself, but no bright flash in the middle.

So, when you watch that Beacon tonight or in the future, remember our club and ham radio played a vital and exciting role in its current existence. And again, thank you to our Veterans who are being honored by tonight's Beacon.

**Pete Harris** 

**KE6ZIW** 



Photo taken by Pete KE6ZIW from his street in Martinez at the moment of flash of the rotating Beacon on top of Mount Diablo (the white light in the middle). The Beacon on top of South Peak Summit is only lit on Veteran's Day, Pearl Harbor Day and Memorial Day. Pete took a lot of pictures until he got this clear one. Wires in the foreground are powerlines on his street and he post processed the picture to get the mountain contour visible.

The red light on the right is on every night. That tower includes the MDARC -2m repeater.

### Special Event AU2JCB - Datta VU2DSI



AU2JCB is a special event call-sign to commemorate the birth date (30 NOV) & to pay homage & to tell about the great INDIAN scientist Acharya JAGADISH CHANDRA BOSE who is recognized as the "Father of Wireless Communication" by the scientific community of our world &IEEE.

I am, VU2DSI is operating with this call sign for the last 17 years since 2005& operate AU2JCB from 25 NOV 2022 to 13 DEC 2022.

The Details of operation ----

Period----25 NOV 2022 to 13DEC 2022

Frequencies-----

10 M-- 28545, 28510,28490. 21 M-21235, 21310, 21350.

20M-14210, 14250, 14310. 40 M---7040, 7150.

80 M --- 3710.

IN FM MODE----- 6M -50800, 51500. 10 M---29700.

Preferably the operation will be on higher bands according to propagation conditions.

QSL--- Direct to VU2DSI, "SURABHI" MEHERABAD. AHMEDNAGAR.414006. INDIA.

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FOR DX STATIONS PLEASE SEND 2IRC's----IF POSSIBLE--- as many many DX stations are requesting QSL's.

I will appreciate the GOOD number of used postal stamps instead of IRC as I love collecting stamps.

# December 2022

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
			1	2	3	4
5			8	9	10	11
12					LARK Meeting	18
19	20	Ham Breakfast		23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### LARK MON. NIGHT NET ON: 147.120 MHZ + offset, PL 100 AD6KV. Every Monday 7 PM local time. Visitors welcome to join in.

### **Net Control Operator Schedules**

#### Monday Night Net Control Operator Schedule

### October

### November

### December

DAY	OP	NAME	DAY	OP	NAME	DAY	OP	NAME
03	AD6KV	Ron	7	WB6AEA	Jon	5	N5KA	Jerry
10	EOC		14	EOC		12	EOC	
17	AE6D	Ed	21	AD6KV	Ron	19	WB6ETY	John
24	N5KA	Jerry	28	AE6D	Ed	26	WB6AEA	Jon
31	WB6ETY	John						

EVERYONE is invited to check in to the net. Please contact AE6D ae6d@sbcglobal.net if you need more information or would like to become a Net Control Operator. After the net please call Ed AE6D with the AC/DC statistics or send him the information by email.

#### **Thursday Night Net Control Operator Schedule**

10/6/2022	Thursday	Peter/AI6RG	Rich/KN6HSR	Easy Tech Discussion:
10/13/2022	Thursday	Nate/N8MOR	David/K6WOO	General Discussion:
10/20/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	Advanced Tech Discussion
10/27/2022	Thursday	David/K6WOO	Peter/AI6RG	New Comer, General Discussion:
11/3/2022	Thursday	Jerry/N5KA	Nate/N8MOR	Study Night: General Exam
11/10/2022	Thursday	Peter/AI6RG	Rich/KN6HSR	Easy Tech Discussion:
11/17/2022	Thursday	Nate/N8MOR	David/K6WOO	General Discussion:
11/24/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	NONE
12/1/2022	Thursday	David/K6WOO	Peter/AI6RG	New Comer, General Discussion:
12/8/2022	Thursday	Jerry/N5KA	Nate/N8MOR	Study Night: General Exam
12/15/2022	Thursday	Peter/AI6RG	Rich/KN6HSR	Easy Tech Discussion:
12/22/2022	Thursday	Nate/N8MOR	David/K6WOO	General Discussion:
12/29/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	Advanced Tech Discussion

#### **Regularly Scheduled Nets**

LARK/LIVERMORE NET	Every MON.	1900 local 147.120+	PL 100
RACES Net 7pm	Every MON.		
Windfarms 10-10 NET	Every WED.	1930 local 28.485	USB
LARK TECH NET	Every THURS.	1930 local 147.120+	PL 100
LLNL Retiree Net	Every FRI 8:30 am	0830 local	7.2630 LSB
SWOT	Every Sun. & Tues.	2000 LOCAL	144.250 USB
THE NOON TIME NET	EVERY DAY	1200-1400 LOCAL	7.2685 LSB & 3970 LSB
RV RADIO NET	MON-FRI	0800-0930 LOCAL	7.2685 LSB

# LARK CONTACTS 2022

LARK—LIVERMORE AMATEUR RADIO KLUB\_P.O. BOX 3190, LIVERMORE, CA 94550-3190. Web: http://www.livermoreARK.org. E-mail list: <u>livermoreark@groups.io</u>

<u>GET YOUR HAM LICENSE OR UPGRADE</u>. LARK conducts all levels of license testing (upon request) at the Livermore City Council Chambers following club meetings (3rd Sat. each month). Contact Ron Kane, AD6KV (AD6KV at arrl.net) 2 weeks in advance.

OFFICE	CONTACT	CALL	E-mail	Phone
President & Events	George Moorehead	KG6GEM	KG6WIU1@COMCAST.NET	(925) 516-2676
Vice President	Chris Quirk	W6CJQ	w6cjq@yahoo.com	925-202-1198
Secretary	Ryan Mahoney	W6RAM	Ryan.andrew.mahoney@g mail.com	925-786-0640
Treasurer	Bernie Bernstein	NJ6W	nj6w@xemaps.com	(925) 858-4608
Board (PP)	Roger Deming	KK6RD	rogerdeming@yahoo.com	(925) 484-1285
Board	David Counts	KG6WIR	dlcounts@sbcglobal.net	925-895-4698
Board	Nate Moore	N8MOR	nate@nateandamy.org	(925) 577-4916
Activities	Jerry Benterou	N5KA	benterou@gmail.com	925-321-3263
Repeater Chair	lan Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian@gmail.com	
Web Site	Arnold Harding	KQ6DI		
Newsletter Editor	Roberto Sadkowski	K6KM	rsadkowski@gmail.com	
Membership	Venkatesh Varadha (Var)	KM6TAB	svvenkatesh2786@outlook .com	(925) 961-7703
Net Coordinator	Ed Diemer	AE6D	ae6d@arrl.net	
RFI	Gary Johnson	NA6O	gwj@me.com	
T-Hunts	Rich Harrington	KN6FW		
Swap n Shop	Richard Combs	KN6HSR	KN6HSR@arrl.net	

Facebook—http://www.facebook.com/LivermoreARK Twitter link : <u>https://twitter.com/LivermoreARK</u>



<u>Special interests:</u> Mesh Networking. Dave KK6DF http://mesh.sushisoft.com . https:// www.youtube.com/user/fanninsushi/videos. View: AREDN!http://www.aredn.org. <u>CERT</u> <u>NEWS</u>: Tracy Hein CERT contact. Email: thein@lpfire.org or (925) 454 -2317 https:// community.fema.gov/Register/Register\_Program\_View?id=a0xt0000000mAuzAAE

Meetings 3rd Wednesdays. Remillard RM 3333 Busch Rd. Pleasanton.

# LARK Membership Form



#### LARK LIVERMORE AMATEUR RADIO KLUB. P.O. BOX 3190, LIVERMORE, CA 94551-3190 An ARRL Affiliated Club

LARK MEMBERSHIP FORM - Print, fill out, mail in with check. Circle all that apply: New / Renewing / Family Today's Date: \_ NAME: CALL SIGN: \_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER? Yes / No Address: PHONE: ( ) UNLISTED? YES NO Enter your E-mail here and stay connected: \_ LARK NEWS featuring upcoming club events and articles is available monthly via email. http://www.livermoreark.org/ Access the current and back issues on our website. ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS (At the same mailing address, only \$2. membership per person) NAME PHONE EMAIL ARRL MEMBER ANNUAL DUES # PRIMARY (\$20.00) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS # (\$2.00 each) TOTAL: \$ MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LARK. Thank You. Membership is \$20.00. per calendar year starting on Jan 1 through Dec. 31. To complete membership by mail: print and fill out this form, include a check payable to LARK, and mail to: LARK Membership Chairman, P.O. Box 3190, Livermore, CA, 94551-3190. Please be sure your complete mailing address, e-mail, and call sign are on your check. Questions? Contact the Membership Team via email: membership@livermoreark.org You may also complete membership application and payment by: Bringing this form filled out and pay by cash or check to either the Membership Chairman or Treasurer at any general meeting. Or:

pay with a credit card or PayPal account on the Club's membership page: http://livermoreark.org/membership/membership.html.

Thank you and welcome aboard from LARK and the Membership Team.