

LARK NEWS September 2025



Livermore Amateur Radio Klub LARK is an ARRL affiliated club dedicated to Public Service Volunteer Emergency Communications.

Meetings are once a month on the 3rd Saturday 9:30AM

VENUE: City of Livermore Meeting Hall

1016 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore CA 94550

Available live via zoom by invitation only. Visitors Welcome

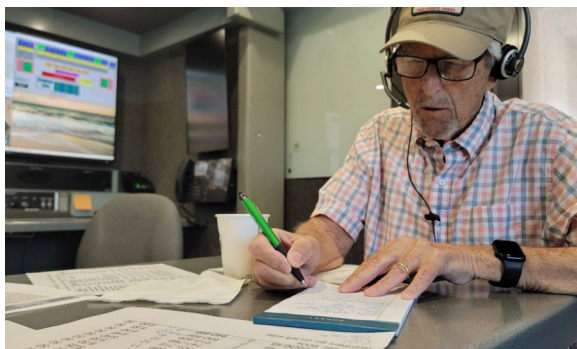
Editor: Gregory Kiyoi KN6RUQ



CS131.2 at PPRR Photo by Rand W6TRM



PPRR First Group Photo by John WX6G



Jerry N5KA in CS131.2 PPRR Photo by Rand W6TRM



George KG6GEM in CS131.2 PPRR Photo by Jerry N5KA

Contents

Presidents Message	3
Notes from the Editor.....	4
Monthly Meeting Minutes.....	5
Board Meeting Minutes	6
Community Activities	8
Patterson Pass Road Race	9
Crossword Puzzle.....	11
Swap n' Shop Cave	13
September Calendar	14
Net Control Operator Schedules.....	15
LARK Contacts	16
LARK Membership Form	17

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livermoreark.org

Presidents Message

I want to thank **Brian KA6ZED** for making the coffee and picking up the refreshments for monthly meetings. I would like to have someone help him if possible, please let me know. This effort is appreciated by all who attend the meeting.

I wanted to let you know that the Events Chairperson (me) is following the upcoming events for 2025, and I have an update. The following events will be happening:

- **Pacificon Booth - Sat/Sun, Oct 11th & 12th**
- **Pacificon Swap Meet - Sun, Oct 12th**
- **Cycle for Hope Bike Ride - Sun, Oct 19th**

We are in need of volunteer radio support for all events and any level of experience is welcome.

As more events are confirmed you will be kept advised. Make sure to sign up on the LARK website for these events for which LARK supports.

Contact **Ron AD6KV** if you are interested in supporting the emergency communications for the City of Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin as part of the EOC group for ARES.

Want to reach out and thank **Jerry N5KA** and **Steve K8YIP** for continuing to get very interesting presentations for our monthly LARK meetings. If you have any ideas please contact them.

I wanted to thank **Ron AD6KV** and **VE Team** for continuing to provide a way for hams to get their testing completed.

The Technical Interest Group is becoming

more active with project ideas. If you want to participate or have ideas, contact **Ron AD6KV**.

Ian W6TCP continues to work on enhancing the repeaters for use by all of us so please report any issues to Ian 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 AE6D** 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 stay healthy and stay safe.

George KG6GEM (kg6wui1 at comcast dot net)

Notes from the Editor

Thank you to **Phil KM6KEU** for his presentation on Nano VNA at the club meeting.

Club meeting photos by **Steve K8YIP**



Hamshack Hotline (HH) will be shutting down on August 29, 2025. The weekly HH net will continue using Hams Over IP (HOIP). Your existing VOIP phone should work on HOIP. Please check the [LARK HH group](#) as well as [HH](#) and [HOIP](#) links for additional information.

Thank you for all that have sent articles, pictures, and feedback. The newsletter is a collaborative process, please keep sending me your articles and ideas.

Gregory KN6RUQ *editor at [livermoreark dot org](mailto:livermoreark@livermoreark.org)*



Monthly Meeting Minutes



LARK Monthly Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2025

Meeting start time was 9:30am and Adjourned at 11:00am

Attendance total was 45

Quick recap

The LARK meeting featured a presentation by Phil Montgomery on using the Nano VNA device and its software to measure antenna performance, demonstrating calibration techniques and comparing different antennas' VSWR readings. Committee reports followed, including announcements about upcoming speakers, the transition from Hamshack Hotline to Hams over IP, requests for volunteers at events like Pacificon and Cycle for Hope, and updates on the Technical Information Group's resources. The conversation ended with a reminder about the City of Livermore EOC Ham Radio demonstration and the North American SSB contest.

Summary

Nano VNA Software Presentation

George opened the meeting with attendees introducing themselves by name and call sign. Phil KM6KEU, gave a presentation about Nano VNA software, explaining that he's relatively new to RF theory but wants to share his discoveries.

NanoVNA Antenna Analysis Demonstration

Phil KM6KEU demonstrates the NanoVNA and NanoVNA Saver software, showing how to connect, calibrate, and analyze antenna performance. He highlights the value of the \$70 NanoVNA compared to expensive professional equipment, noting that it works with various software options and can save calibration files for reuse. Phil shares his experience with different antennas, including a Wouxon tri-band radio and a Diamond SRH-940, and recommends purchasing NanoVNA in the \$60-70 price range as they typically include all necessary calibration accessories.

Club Updates and Volunteer Opportunities

After the presentation on the Nano VNA device and its software, the meeting takes a short break and then continues with committee reports. Jerry announces they are looking for speakers for the September and October meetings, while Roger reminds everyone that Hamshack Hotline service is ending on August 29th with a switch to Hams over IP. George KG6GEM reports on the successful Patterson Pass Road Race Event and requests volunteers for upcoming events including Pacificon, the Booth, and the Swap Meet, and the October 19th Cycle for Hope. The meeting concludes with approval of previous minutes, a brief repeater status update from Nate, and an announcement that a VE session will follow immediately after the meeting.

Ham Radio Activities and Resources

Ron AD6KV announces that the Technical Information Group is on recess but can facilitate projects using Robot Garden facilities at the airport, including laser cutters and 3D printers. He also discusses the City of Livermore EOC Ham Radio demonstration scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday from 11 AM to 1 PM, where ham operators will showcase their capabilities to city officials using a simplex frequency of 146.535 and possibly HF communications. The North American SSB contest starts in 10 minutes, with 15- and 20-meter bands expected to be active during the day and 40 meters in the evening.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Ryan W6RAM - Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes



LARK Board of Director Meeting August 11, 2025

Attendees

George, KG6GEM
Julian, WB6BDD
David, KG6WIR
Peter, AI6RG
Bernie, NJ6W
Roger, KK6RD

Treasurer's Report

Peter provided a financial update with club finances are solid, with expected Field Day expenses still pending.

Lark is registered with the Lab's workplace giving program, which will allow contributions through the upcoming Home Campaign starting in October. AI6RG plans to announce this capability at the September and October Lark meetings, noting that contributions will qualify for a matching contribution, though the specific match amount is still unknown.

Bernie to follow up on our Charities registration status with the state if no update by next month.

Old Business-

Repeaters

George reported that the repeaters are functioning well despite the heat.

Activities/Events Updates

George covered updates on recent and upcoming events, including the successful Patterson Pass Road Race despite a radio problem at the LLNL Livermore repeater. George announced upcoming events like the Pacificon Booth and Swap Meet in October, the Cycle for Hope bike ride, and EOC exercises in Livermore and Pleasanton on August 19th and 21st, with sign-ups managed by Ron Kane. David mentioned that the Alameda County Sheriff's EOC would not participate in the upcoming exercise due to unavailability.

A presenter is confirmed for this Saturday's meeting, with efforts ongoing to secure more speakers for future LARK Monthly meetings.

George requested 4-6 people for the early shift for the Pacificon Swap Meet, and 2 for the second shift on Sunday, October 12th. We still need more volunteers to sign up for the booth coverage on Saturday and Sunday.



Membership Update

Bernie reported a new member has recently joined, David Dyche, KN6CGT bringing the total paid up membership to 147.

Swap-n-Shop

George announced that Mark, KK6UKU would be out of town for a month, and he would coordinate any sales, etc. when he returns. He has provided a list and photos of the available equipment in the Swap-n-Shop section of the Newsletter. Contact him by email if interested in any of the equipment.

Other Items

Roger to research embroidered patches options and prices and send information to the board. David inquired about mugs, and George confirmed the supply is still sufficient, with Bernie still having a few cases and George working through the bottom level of his current box.

Meeting Adjournment at 7:50pm

Minutes submitted by George KG6GEM for Ryan W6RAM

Community Activities



We NEED You!
Sign Up NOW



Pacificon, Sat & Sun, Oct 11 & 12, 2025

LARK Booth: Opportunity to tell people about LARK and encourage them to join LARK. Sat (9am-5pm) & Sun (9am-1:30pm) 2-3hr shifts. You can sign up for multiple shifts. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AEAD28A6FA7-44377069-lark#/>

Swap Meet: LARK has hosted this event for the MDARC Radio Ham Club in the past years. We have been requested to support this event again this year. There are two shifts on Sunday (4am & 9am). <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AEAD28A6FA7-pacificon1#/>



Cycle of Hope Bike Ride Event - Sunday, October 19, 2025

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AEAD28A6FA7-44577659-cycle>

This is a fund-raiser bicycle ride of up to 50 kilometer. There is a need for radio volunteers for this event that starts and finishes in Dublin. Support is needed for SAGs and Stationary Posts from 7am to 3pm.

Patterson Pass Road Race

George Moorhead, KG6GEM

The Patterson Pass Road Race was held on Sunday, August 3rd, 2025, in the hills East of Livermore. The heats/races covered many miles which stretched over different elevations. When you combine the length of the course, the winding narrow road with numerous hairpins turns, the heat, and sharing the road with motor traffic, this is a challenging race.



Photo by Brian KM6EMU

Photo by Alan KM6BRQ



All racers started at Patterson Pass & Midway Roads and finished on Midway Road. We had a total of 132 racers, supported by 16 LARK hams. As usual, we did a very professional job. All major areas and intersections of concern for the race were safely covered for the entire event.

From the Race Director Robert “***First off you guys were great out there today. We really appreciate your support***”.

Net Control was located near the Registration area. Net Control this year we are using the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District Comm Support Unit

(CS-131) which was set up in the dirt lot known as the triangle at the corner of Patterson Pass Rd and



Midway Rd which was directly across the street from the power plant.

Photo by Jerry N5KA

The road is narrow, and the roadside strip where we set up was not super wide either, so racers passed within a few feet of the Net Control station. At Net Control, it's important to always stay alert because when these elite cyclists pass by, they are going very fast, and they appear suddenly. You can't see them coming from a long way off, since the corner they turn before they pass by us is visually obstructed by trees. We had groups of racers speeding past throughout the event.



Photos by John WX6G

John KI6DMD (Left)

John WX6G (Below)



There were no medical incidents this year. This year we had a different situation to handle during the event and that was a cattle drive on Old Altamont Rd which delayed racers for about twenty minutes while all traffic was held. We experienced from radio challenges this year, but we made it work.

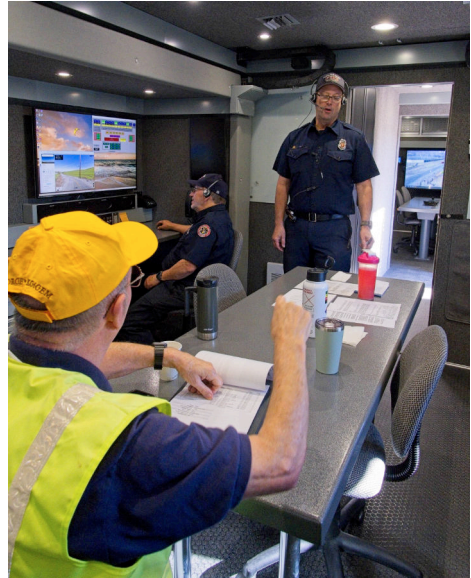


Elizabeth (CERT), George KG6GEM, Jerry N5KA, Steve K8YIP
Photo by Rand W6TRM



Photo by Brian KM6EMU

for this worthwhile public event. The P.P.R.R. course, although quick, is not easy for the racers and they can use the added safety net which ham radio coverage provides.



George KG6GEM, Rand W6TRM, Steve K8YIP Photo by Jerry N5KA

A big thank you to all the LARK radio volunteers for helping today.

Volunteers were **Steve K8YIP, Bill AJ6UU, Alan KM6BRQ, David K6WOO, John KI6DMD, John WX6G, Jerry N5KA, Brian KM6EMU, Kim N6LVQ, Mike KO6HUE, Joe NR7Z, David KG6WIR, Rich KN6HSR, Mark KK6UKU, Rand W6TRM, and San Ramon Valley CERT volunteer Elizabeth Hood-Lockhart.**

As always, thanks for everyone's cooperation with the last-minute assignment changes and your help

Crossword Puzzle

by Chris Codella, W2PA

11/25/2008

Phunetics

Across

1. How puzzle ends
6. Suffix with hard- or soft-
10. Radio personality K2ORS
14. Improvised
15. Suffix with radi- or modul-
16. Put in stitches
17. Whinny
18. Sailor's rum drink
19. Partner of FIGS
20. Outfit for dancing?
23. Dozen dits
24. Mo. for VHF QP
25. Legislate
29. Mo. for ID, OK, VA and WI QP's
30. HZ pilgrimage
32. US Army station
33. TA bigwig
37. Barren
39. Newton bar order?
42. NE to ZL from W0
43. They got 11 in '58
44. Tack on
45. Nav. rank
46. Classic rcvr maker from IL
48. Celebrate
50. Sat. type
51. Flex's
55. Shakespearean wireless dance?
59. Maker of the "seven drifts three"
62. RSGB is a member
63. W5 capital last name
64. Function on an HT, say
65. ___ Kringle
66. Classic vinyl
67. Combustible heap

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
23						24					25		26	27
					29				30	31		32		
33	34	35	36				37				38			
39						40	41							
42											43			
44					45				46	47				
48			49				50				51	52	53	54
				55		56	57				58			
59	60	61				62					63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

68. If follower, to a programmer
 69. C's low in the bands
- Down**
1. Unchecked items on a DXCC list, for example
 2. Brainstorms
 3. Adds water to latex, say
 4. DXing LIDs, slangily
 5. See 58 down
 6. DL opera composer
 7. Take ___ (travel)
 8. Tripod place
 9. "Cogito ___ sum"
 10. OP lead-ins
 11. DXCC item (abbr.)
 12. Hams are on it
 13. Nets make it up
 21. KH6 is in it, but not for DXCC

22. Celebrate
26. Normal operator state in a contest, hopefully
27. Provide food for
28. Low cards
29. HK0 place
30. HHS, predecessor
31. Fire remnant
33. Route to VU from W9, e.g.
34. Tube cap
35. Test, on 7.002 MHz, perhaps
36. Hardly a beauty
37. T
38. Mode on 7.178 MHz, probably
40. W6 area net
41. Sm. radios
46. Decline
47. Jersey call
49. Moldova prefix
50. Large-eyed lemur
51. Lifted, so to speak
52. Crushes, as in a contest
53. Scoundrel
54. Flower towers?
56. Phone op's need
57. Countess's husband
58. With 5 down, ultra short wave moonbounce signal?
59. Brainwave radio?
60. Like yagi elements in winter
61. Shack on wheels

Crossword Solution

W	I	T	H	E		W	A	R	E		J	E	A	N		
A	D	H	O	C		A	T	O	R		K	N	I	T		
N	E	I	G	H		G	R	O	G		L	T	R	S		
T	A	N	G	O		U	N	I	F	O	R	M				
S	S	S	S			S	E	P			E	N	A	C	T	
						M	A	R		H	A	J		W	A	R
P	A	S	H	A			D	E	S	O	L	A	T	E		
O	N	E	A	L	P	H	A	W	H	I	S	K	E	Y		
L	O	N	G	P	A	T	H				C	B	E	R	S	
A	D	D			E	N	S			R	M	E				
R	E	V	E	L				L	E	O		S	D	R	S	
				R	O	M	E	O	F	O	X	T	R	O	T	
E	I	C	O		I	A	R	U			R	O	U	G	E	
S	C	A	N		K	R	I	S			A	L	B	U	M	
P	Y	R	E			E	L	S	E		Y	E	S	E	S	

Swap n' Shop Cave

There are several items available in the cave. If interested please contact the shop keeper, **Mark KK6UKU** via email **mkshbow2 at gmail dot com** or phone **925 339 4212**.

- Tektronix 454 Scope with film camera
- Pulse and Signal Generator
- Megacycle Signal Generator
- President HR2510 Transceiver
- Bearcat Scanner
- Kenwood TM-281
- Variable Load



September Calendar

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
1 Net	2	3 10-10 Net HH Net	4 Tech Net	5	6	7
8 Net	9	10 10-10 Net HH Net	11 Tech Net	12	13	14
15 Net	16	17 10-10 Net HH Net	18 Tech Net	19	20 LARK Meeting	21
22 Net	23	24 10-10 Net HH Net	25 Tech Net	26	27	28
29 Net	30					

LARK MONDAY NIGHT NET
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

July

Date	Net Control
7/7/2025	Jon / WB6AEA
7/14/2025	EOC
7/21/2025	Ron / AD6KV
7/28/2025	Ed / AE6D

August

Date	Net Control
8/4/2025	John / WB6ETY
8/11/2025	EOC
8/18/2025	Jon / WB6AEA
8/25/2025	Ron / AD6KV

September

Date	Net Control
9/1/2025	Ed / AE6D
9/8/2025	EOC
9/15/2025	John / WB6ETY
9/22/2025	Jon / WB6AEA
9/29/2025	Ron / AD6KV

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

If you would like to volunteer or learn to be Net Control please contact Nate N8MOR (nate@nateandamy.org)

Date	Primary Net Control	Backup Net Control
7/3/2025	Bill / AJ6UU	Don / W2DON
7/10/2025	David / K6WOO	Peter / AI6RG
7/17/2025	TBD	Nate / N8MOR
7/24/2025	Brian / KA6ZED	Rich / KN6HSR
7/31/2025	Don / W2DON	Bill / AJ6UU
8/7/2025	Peter / AI6RG	David / K6WOO
8/14/2025	Nate / N8MOR	TBD
8/21/2025	Bill / AJ6UU	Brian / KA6ZED
8/28/2025	Rich / KN6HSR	Don / W2DON
9/4/2025	David / K6WOO	Peter / AI6RG
9/11/2025	TBD	Nate / N8MOR
9/18/2025	Brian / KA6ZED	Rich / KN6HSR
9/25/2025	Don / W2DON	Bill / AJ6UU

Regularly Scheduled Nets

LARK/LIVERMORE NET	Every Mon	1900 local 147.120+	PL 100
RACES Net	Every MON.	1900 local	
Windfarms 10-10 NET	Every WED.	1930 local 28.485	USB
HamShack Hotline Net	Every WED.	1900 Bridge 363	PIN 0331
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	EVERYDAY	1200-1400 LOCAL	7.2685 LSB & 3970 LSB
RV RADIO NET	MON - FRI	0800-0930 LOCAL	7.2685 LSB

LARK Contacts

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

GET YOUR HAM LICENSE OR UPGRADE. 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 dot net) 2 weeks in advance.

OFFICE	CONTACT	CALL	E-mail	Phone
President & Events	George Moorehead	KG6GEM	kg6wui1 at comcast dot net	925 516 2676
Vice President	Chris Quirk	W6CJQ	w6cjq at yahoo dot com	925 202 1198
Secretary	Ryan Mahoney	W6RAM	ryan dot andrew dot mahoney at gmail dot com	925 786 0640
Treasurer	Peter Bedrossian	AI6RG	treasurer at livermoreark dot org	
Board (PP)	Roger Deming	KK6RD	rogerdeming at yahoo dot com	925 484 1285
Board	David Counts	KG6WIR	dlcounts at sbcglobal dot net	925 895 4698
Board	Nate Moore	N8MOR	nate at nateandamy dot org	925 577 4916
Activities	Jerry Benterou	N5KA	benterou at gmail dot com	925 321 3263
	Steve Nissen	K8YIP	s dot nissen55 at gmail dot com	650 270 3796
Repeater Chair	Ian Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian at gmail dot com	
Web Site	Arnold Harding	KQ6DI		
Newsletter Editor	Gregory Kiyoi	KN6RUQ	editor at livermoreark dot org	
Membership	Bernie Bernstein	NJ6W	membership at livermoreark dot org	925 858 4608
	Julian Riccomini	WB6BDD	wb6bdd at gmail dot com	
Net Coordinator	Ed Diemer	AE6D	ae6d at arrl dot net	
RFI	Gary Johnson	NA6O	gwj at me dot com	
T-Hunts	Brian Zoraster	KA6ZED	ka6zed at gmail dot com	925 786 8412
	Rich Harrington	KN6FW		
Swap n Shop	Mark Bowers	KK6UKU		925 339 4212
Ask the Elmer	Lee Zalaznik	KI6OY	lee dot zalaznik at sbcglobal dot net	925 699 5998
Hospitality	Brian Zoraster	KA6ZED	ka6zed at gmail dot com	925 786 8412



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



Special interests: View: AREDN Mesh <http://www.aredn.org>.

CERT NEWS: CERT contact - Email: cert@lpfire.org or (925) 454-2361
 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	
AARL 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.