LARK NEWS April 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

Photo by John KM6JMK

Photo by Allen, AK5FB

Jerry by Jerry N5KA

Gary by Gary NA6O

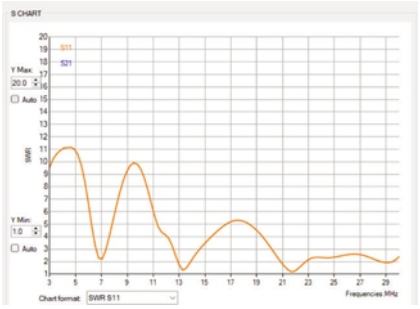

Chart by Roberto K6KM

Photo by Brian KA6ZED

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Presidents Message

I want to thank **Noah N6TW** for making the coffee and picking up the refreshments for monthly meetings. This effort is appreciated by all who attend the meeting.

We are also looking for a volunteer to take over this position from Noah. He will be moving in June, so the sooner the better. If someone can volunteer so they can start working with Noah to learn what he does each 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:

- **Cinderella Bike Ride, Saturday, April 5th**
- **Devil Mountain Run, Sunday, May 4th**

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

There is one more event that LARK does not sponsor but we do help with support and that is the Berkeley Hills Road Race on Saturday, April 26th, if interested contact Mark Walsh directly to volunteer.

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.

The yearly LARK elections will be at the April meeting. If interested in serving as an officer or board member please let me know ASAP.

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 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 (kg6wiu1@comcast.net)

Notes from the Editor

Thank you to **John Portune, W6NBC** for his presentation on ***In Search of the "optimized" Magnetic Loop*** at the club meeting. This is the presentation slide deck - https://w6nbc.com/slides/Magnetic%20Loop.pdf.

Sasquatch Stomp 2025

This is QRP event designed to get QRP CW operators on the air. It is similar to the Zombie Shuffle.

The main point of this contest is to get on the air and have fun. The event is scored, but unlike other contests the final score for each participant will be a negative number with the object being to get the lowest number below zero.

Any CW speed is welcome so get on the air, try, and have fun. Should be able to make several contacts here in the Tri-Valley alone with other club members.

Date March 28, 2025
Time 12:00-8:00pm Pacific
Mode CW & 5 Watts Only
Info https://www.pnwqrp.org/sasquatch-stomp

Veterans Memorial Building K6V Event

An Amateur radio special event honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Veterans Memorial Building.

Date March 30, 2025
Time 11:00-5:00pm Pacific
Mode All modes and bands
Info https://www.qrz.com/db/K6V or km6fiv@gmail.com

April 2025 Events

- International DX Convention, April 11-13th - https://dxconvention.com
- ARRL Rookie Roundup, April 13th- http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
- World Amateur Radio Day, April 18th - https://www.iaru.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day
- Big Bear HamEscape, April 25-27th - https://bigbearhamescape.com
- Morse Code Day, April 27th - https://nationaltoday.com/morse-code-day/

The newsletter is a collaborative process, please keep sending me your articles and ideas.

Gregory KN6RUQ

Monthly Meeting Minutes

LARK General Meeting | March 15, 2025 | Minutes

Call to Order

1. Meeting called to order by George KG6GEM at 9:32am.
2. George started introductions, first of in-person attendees and then Zoom attendees.
3. Members: 43 / Zoom: 12 / Guests: 0 = 55 Total attending the meeting.

Presentation

1. George introduced John W6NBC for his presentation "In Search of the Optimized Magnetic Loop".

Treasurer's Report – Peter AI6RG

1. LARK budget is stable.
2. We currently have two ways to accept monetary donations for which we can provide a receipt for tax purposes. One method is by personal check to LARK. The second method is by cash, but we ask that a cash donor present the cash in person.

Activities – George KG6GEM for Jerry N5KA

1. Jerry will be stepping down. Please let Jerry or George know if you would like to be the Activities Chairperson.
2. Looking for activities for monthly meetings for the rest of the year contact Jerry or Steve

Roger's Report – Roger KK6RD

1. We will not publish the roster to protect the privacy of our members
2. George or anyone else in the club will NOT request gift cards, etc. from you.

Newsletter – Greg KG6GEM

1. Keep your articles and pictures coming.

Membership – Julian WB6BDD

1. Membership: 140 paid members
2. Bernie will be the new Membership Chairperson starting in May, Julian will still help with making contacts with new hams and helping with renewals.

Events – George KG6GEM

1. Signups are on the LARK website for upcoming events including Cinderella for SAG and Stationary assignments on April 5th, and the Devil Mountain Run on May 4th, so please volunteer.

Old Business

1. Minutes from the February meeting were approved unanimously.

Repeaters – Nate N8MOR

1. WA6ODP is on backup power waiting on PG&E.

VE Session – Ron AD6KV

1. No testing session today.

Technical Interest Groups – Ron AD6KV

1. Made a contact on the ISS as they passed overhead.

Operating

1. Veterans Memorial Centennial in Danville on March 30th. They have obtained a special 1x1 call sign, K6V. Looking for operators to participate on all modes. For more information lookup K6V on QRZ.
2. FCC has started an open comment period on deregulation.

Elections – George KG6GEM

1. George reviewed the proposed nominations.
2. The April meeting will be the annual elections.

Ask the Elmer – Lee KI6OY

1. Loops for higher frequencies in VHF/UHF aren't as common. Other antennas like Yagi's are normally smaller and more efficient than loops. Loops are optimized for receiving.
2. 28.3-28.5 limit is 200 watts for Technician's side band
3. CW can be used on any band
4. Windfarms net is on Wednesday night and is a good way to get introduced to HF.

Adjournment

1. George KG6GEM adjourned the meeting at 11:24 AM

Minutes submitted by:

_____

Ryan Mahoney (W6RAM) – LARK Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

LARK Board Meeting | March 10, 2025 | Minutes

Attendees: George, Chris, Ryan, Peter, Roger, David, Nate, Jerry, Bernie
Absent: Julian

Call to Order

1. Meeting called to order by George at 7:31 PM.

Treasure's Report – Peter

1. The club's finances are healthy and stable.

Repeaters – Nate

1. Working at the moment.

Activities – Jerry

1. March: Seeking the Optimum Magnetic Loop Antenna by John W6NBC.
2. One future idea is a Surplus Amateur Radio Mini-Flea Market. The board will work on finalizing details before it is scheduled for one of the meeting's topic.
3. Early Bird Breakfast will be at Country Waffles on Holmes St.
4. Jerry and Steve K8YIP are working on 2025 and welcome any suggestions.
5. Jerry is looking for a replacement Activities Chair.

Events – George

1. Saturday April 5th Cinderella
2. Sunday May 4th Devil Mountain Run
3. Need more volunteers for both events please signup early. Signups are available on the LARK website

Membership – George

1. 138 paid members.

Request for LARK Roster – George

1. The board will not release a club roster to protect the privacy of the members.

Elections – George

1. If you are interested in serving as a club officer contact George, this will be announced at the monthly meeting on Saturday.
2. Looking to find a replacement for Noah N6TW for bringing the donuts and coffee at the monthly meeting starting in June.

Minutes – George

1. Minutes from the previous board meeting approved unanimously.

Adjournment

1. George adjourned the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Ryan Mahoney (W6RAM)– LARK Secretary

LARK Elections

2025 Nominations for LARK Officers/ Board Members

The following have been nominated as officers and board members for the annual LARK elections. The elections will be done at the April meeting.

We are looking for the following positions:

Activities Chairperson
Plans and coordinates guest speakers and activities for LARK meetings. There is a co-chair to help with this position.

Hospitality Chairperson
Makes the coffee and picks up the refreshments for LARK meetings. Need a volunteer no later than May, so you can learn from Noah. This is a volunteer position.

Position	Name	Call Sign
President	George Moorehead	KG6GEM
Vice President	Chris Quirk	W6CJQ
Secretary	Ryan Mahoney	W6RAM
Treasurer	Peter Bedrossian	AI6RG
Activities Chair	TBD	
Co-Chair	Steve Nissen	K8YIP
Board Members		
PP	Roger Deming	KK6RD
	David Counts	KG6WIR
	Nate Moore	N8MOR

If you have interest in serving as an officer or board member please contact George Moorehead (kg6wiu1@comcast.net)

Community Activities

We NEED You!
Sign Up NOW

48th Cinderella Bike Ride - Saturday, April 5, 2025

Signup ***https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AEAD28A6FA7-cinderella1***

The Cinderella Classic, Short, and Lite rides are 60/39/21 miles recreational bicycle ride (not a race) for women & girls only.

Devil Mountain Double Century - April 26, 2025

Signup link coming soon *(Subject to change depending on support)*

The event is 200 mile, one day, bike ride for about 50 riders. LARK's help is requested for the Mines Road segment (where cell phones don't work) starting South of Livermore to the summit of Mt Hamilton.

Devil Mountain Run - Sunday, May 4, 2025

Signup ***https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AEAD28A6FA7-devil1***

This event takes place in downtown Danville and is a foot race - 5K, 10K, and One Mile fun run.

Historic KPH Maritime Radio Visit

Gary Johnson, NA6O

Roberto, K6KM, and I visited the historic KPH site at Point Reyes in early January for a nice personalized tour of both the transmit and receive sites. Anyone who hasn't been there should definitely check it out. Full info is at https://www.radiomarine.org/ We both got on the air at the K6KPH stations for a couple of quick QSOs which is pretty cool considering the fact that these operating positions were once staffed by professional telegraphers. Thankfully I'm handy with a bug, and that just enhanced the experience.

The actual KPH commercial station is still in operation and still handles marine traffic. Yes, there are ships and boats out there with licensed operators who pass traffic via CW from time to time, mostly for nostalgia but in principle they can also send emergency messages.

At the main operating console that day sat **Roy Henrichs, WB6OVV**, running the KPH "wheel" calling for traffic. Lucky for us, there was a someone with QTC. While the tour groups were milling around and we were all chatting, I had one ear copying the KPH traffic. Messages have a preamble section with things like time and date, destination address, and all sorts of stuff which often doesn't make a lot of sense unless you're in the business. But one specific word caught me by surprise: POMPLUN. Hmmm… There's this guy I used to work with, also a former LARK member, **Don Pomplun, K2BIO**. Nah, can't possible be related to him.

After the traffic handling session, I asked Roy about some of the customers they occasionally have and the history and so forth. Out of the blue he says, "That traffic I just took was from Don Pomplun, who is on a pontoon boat in Virginia. He has a marine license." Well I'll be. What are the chances? Just like ham radio, you never know who you're going to run into on the air!

Testing 4 Portable Antennas

Roberto Sadkowski, K6KM

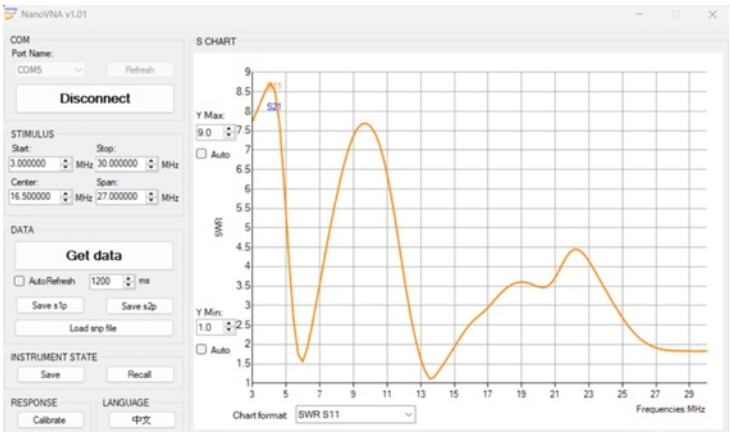
Versatile “random length” antenna

This antenna is 41ft of AWG26 stealth stranded wire deployed as a slopper from an 8m carbon fiber fishing pole. It slants towards a commercial 9:1 Unun with a 13ft counterpoise wire on the ground. 20ft of RG316 feed the signal to the rig.

The end of the coax that connects to the tuner has a common mode choke built-in using the same feedline coax wrapped 12 turns around a 1 inch Type 31 ferrite core.

This is to avoid common mode currents reaching the equipment. An ICOM 7300 100W rig is used in conjunction with an external 200W tuner.

The antenna wire is cut so that it is not resonant on any Ham band but most importantly, so that SWR in all Ham bands of interest are lower than 10:1 (which is what the tuner can handle).



Advantages

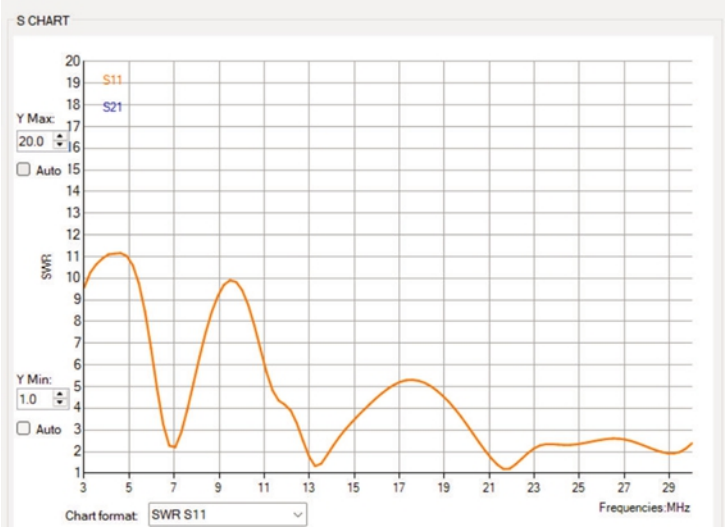
- Works in multiple bands (there is no harmonic relationships since there are no resonances on the bands of interest)
- Easy to deploy. Since the radiation patters are totally unpredictable, there is no interest in keeping the center as high as possible. Only one pole can be used resting on a tree branch, the wire pulling and securing the pole against it.

Disadvantages

- Needs a wide range tuner (typically 10:1).
- The 9:1 Unun needs to be efficient.
- Radiation patters are totally unpredictable.

Ubiquitous End Fed Half Wavelength Inverted V

The wire is cut for 40m so it can work on harmonics (20m, 15m, 10m). 66ft of same type of wire in inverted V configuration using the same fishing pole and same direction as the random end fed with a K6ARK 100W Unun connected at the end. 13ft AWG 26 wire laying on the ground act as counterpoise and the same 20ft RG316 coax is used as feedline with the choke directly connected to the IC 7300. Notice that the resonance impedance mismatch on the 4 bands of interest are within the 3:1 capability of the IC7300 internal tuner.



Advantages

- No need for tuner (or at least a wide range tuner).

Advantages (continued)

- Longer radiator than the random end-fed so better radiation resistance.

Disadvantages

- More cumbersome to deploy (longer wire).
- Power loss in the Unun (particular at 10m).
- Multi-lob radiation patterns at higher harmonics.

Vertical Dipole (10m, 15m)

When we consider minimizing used real estate for our antenna deployment we usually look at verticals.

One of the problems with quarter wave verticals is that their efficiency and efficacy is highly correlated to the radial system used. These radials end up taking the real estate we thought we were going to save.

A vertical dipole does not need any radials, it's simply a dipole rotated vertically. There is no interaction with earth (unless the lower tip is very close to it). It presents an omnidirectional azimuthal pattern and it's easy to trim to resonance.

Care must be taken to use a common mode choke at the feedpoint in order to decouple the feedline from the antenna. Besides, the feedline should exit the antenna perpendicularly to avoid interaction which would distort the radiation pattern. Do the best you can in practice. In this case, the feedline slants towards the operating position.

A heavy MFJ 18ft tripod holds the structure. A Chameleon 17ft stainless steel telescopic whip for the top element and a "chalk line" with a wire containing knots at different quarter wave intervals (10, 12, 15, etc…) form the dipole.

The chalk line hangs from a secured connector by gravity and the tripod is raised so that the wire won't interact with the metallic part of the tripod. Two bands were tested: 10m and 15m, as the day was too windy to extend safely to 20m.

20m elevated Quarter Wave with 4 slanting radials

It was a windy day to try a 20m vertical dipole configuration so a quarter wave vertical antenna with 4 slanting radials was tested. The radials were cut for quarter wave since they are elevated and the feedpoint was pushed up to 6ft. Most of the current in the radials is closer to the feedpoint so the elevation helps reduce the ground interaction.

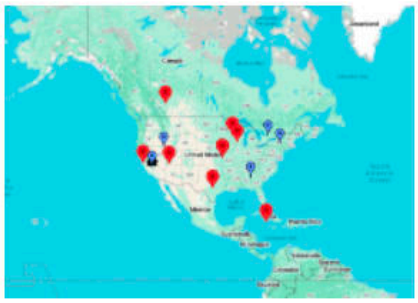
Testing

The propagation parameters were checked at the beginning and at the end of the tests. SFi was around 160 while K=2 , A=8 . The whole test lasted about an hour starting at 20:00Z on 1/9/25. For each antenna a message was sent in CW "CQ TEST DE K6KM" for each of the bands that the antenna covered. The message was repeated during a whole minute to ensure enough opportunity for the Reverse Beacon Network to decode.

RBN hits received.

Random End Fed **EFHW Inverted V** **Verticals**

10m

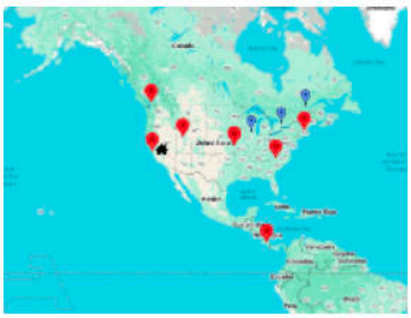




12m

15m



17m



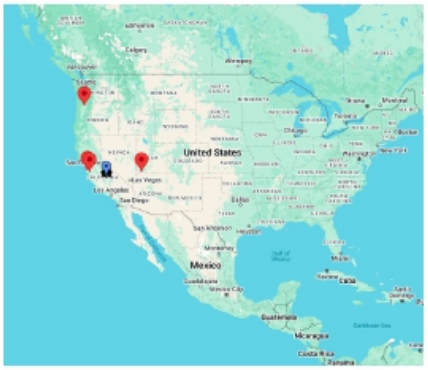
Random End Fed	EFHW Inverted V	Verticals

20m



30m

40m

Common beacon received signal strength comparison in dB. The green data highlights the significant (more than 3dB) difference with respect to the other received signals by the same beacon.

Random End Fed		EFHW Inverted V		Verticals	
10m					
W1NT-2	9			W1NT-2	8
K5TR-2	11	K5TR-2	17	K5TR-2	9
TI7W	9			TI7W	8
AC0C-1	29	AC0C-1	17	AC0C-1	29
K9LC	7			K9LC	20
VE3EID	17	VE3EID	10		
N9CO	5			N9CO	19
K3PA-2	34	K3PA-2	37	K3PA-2	37
KM3T-3	9			KM3T-3	7
W1NT-6	5			W1NT-6	6
KM3T-5	6				
K3PA-1	9	K3PA-1	6	K3PA-1	17
ZF9CW	20			ZF9CW	17
WS2C	13	WS2C	12	WS2C	16
KH6LC	13				
W6YX	16	W6YX	23	W6YX	24
WC2L	7			WC2L	7
K9IMM	11	K9IMM	12	K9IMM	12
VE6WZ	6	VE6WZ	15	VE6WZ	13
K1RA	17				
WZ7I	14	WZ7I	12	WZ7I	17
		K4PP	5	K4PP	14
		K9QC	13	K9QC	22
		ZF9CW	23		
		WB6BEE	11		
				VE6AO	26
				ZL4YL	6
				WE9V	3
				WV4P	17
				W2NAF	3

Random End Fed		EFHW Inverted V		Verticals	
15m					
WC2L	9	WC2L	12		
K9LC	11	K9LC	17	K9LC	16
KM3T-3	9			KM3T-3	9
WZ7I	16	WZ7I	12	WZ7I	12
W6YX	20	W6YX	23	W6YX	20
KH6LC	6				
W2NAF	11	W2NAF	11	W2NAF	15
W3OA	11	W3OA	16	W3OA	23
VK2GEL	9	VK2GEL	10		
K1RA	12				
VE6WZ	3	VE6WZ	9	VE6WZ	5
TI7W	9			TI7W	9
VE6JY	8	VE6JY	5	VE6JY	16
		K5TR-2	12		
		AC0C-1	9		
		WB6BEE	6		
		WE9V	6		
		WA7LNW	11		
		K3PA-1	10		
				K9QC	18
				W1NT-6	9
				KV4TT	5
				W3OA-1	4

20m

WA7LNW	46
NG7M	30
VE6JY	24
W6YX	24
K7CO	27

WA7LNW	44
NG7M	23
VE6JY	30
W6YX	32
K7CO	19
K2PO/7	47
VE6WZ	9
K9QC	11
AC0C-1	13

WA7LNW	27
NG7M	21
VE6JY	27
W6YX	31
K7CO	19
K2PO/7	37
VE6WZ	6
K9QC	8
K5TR-2	4

Conclusion

It's difficult to quantify differences among the antennas with this analysis due to quick variations in propagation, QSB, etc. A lengthier WSPR test would be better; however some conclusions could be drawn here.

All antennas performed acceptably for a POTA/ SOTA deployment, there should be no problem getting 10 contacts with any of them.

The Random End Fed antenna is the most practical of all 4 covering all Ham bands 10m-40m with ease when using a capable tuner. Efficiency seems to be the lowest (shorter radiator, unun transformer loss, potential lower gain in the direction of interest), but performed well enough.

The EFHW has a longer radiating element but still suffers from Unun transformer loss and potential lower gain in the direction of interest. Notice that propagation on 40m for both antennas was NVIS so not much difference with a low wire to the ground antenna.

The Vertical Dipoles performed very well. They don't need lossy transformers, have an omni pattern avoiding nulls and they use very little real estate. They are mono-band, though, so they need physical effort to change bands.

Notice on 20m the skip was quite short for the wire antennas, while the quarter wave vertical seemed to perform a second skip probably related to its low take-off angle.

Member Spotlight

This month we have two member spotlights.

Name/Call Sign: ***Felipe (Phil) Flores, KM6JOY***

Past call(s): *None.*

Home Location: *Pleasanton*

Property/Lot size: *Standard Residential lot.*

Antenna(s):

What's in your shack?
Yaesu VX6R HT and Yaesu FT-8900R.

What is your career (or what was your career)?
Retired Law Enforcement, Retired USN/USNR, Currently a Private Investigator, starting a new Non-Profit.

Married, Kids, Grandkids?
Married 54 years, 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

What type of operating do you do?
Currently VHF and UHF phone, but studying for my general..

Any other hobbies besides ham radio?
Varies over time. While in the Navy, I taught small-craft water safety - teaching sailing (wind) and power boating. While in Law Enforcement I learned and taught interview and interrogation techniques. I have studied a variety of martial arts. I learned to braid bull whips, love camping, photography, and star gazing.

Name/Call Sign: ***George Moorehead, KG6GEM***

Past call(s): *KG6WIU*

Home Location: *Discovery Bay*

Property/Lot size: *2,650 sq. ft. home on standard Residential lot.*

Antenna(s): *Diamond vertical attached to house*

What's in your shack?
4 portable radios and a mobile/base station.

What is your career (or what was your career)?
Retired was in Emergency Management. Current LARK President and Events Coordinator.

Married, Kids, Grandkids?
Widowed, 1 daughter, and 2 grandchildren.

What type of operating do you do?
Handheld - DMR/mobile and event radio operations.

Any other hobbies besides ham radio?
Communication Reserve with San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District.

T-Hunt: My Journey

Brian Zoraster, KA6ZED

Once a month the www.rdf-sf.org group gets together and puts on a driving foxhunt. This month we started in Fremont. The hidden transmitter will be hidden anywhere in the Union city, Fremont, Milpitas, or Sunnyvale.

I arrived at the Fremont start point later than expected as the fox was already transmitting, I hopped out and set-up my KrakenSDR, my "you are here" radio, and tuned the mobile radio to the fox. With the vehicle set-up, I grabbed one of my Yagi antennas and my MK4sniffer (Bluebox) to get an initial bearing.

The first bearing I got was 325° and on the bluebox, I was getting a medium signal strength on attenuation level 1. I recognized the fox's tones as one of **Rich's, KN6FW** fox transmitters and felt like there was a little warble (indicating a reflection) in the signal. Next, I used the SigTrax app and plotted the bearing. Between the weak signal and SigTrax app showing the signal coming from the hills, my hypothesis was the fox was not that close and somewhere just west of the hills.

Initially, I set my sights on the rainbow lake area as I assumed it would have large open areas to get another bearing. From the starting point, I hopped on the freeway and got off at Washington Blvd exit. I decided to get off here and followed the road all the way onto Fremont Blvd. I knew this would put me a little more west of my initial stop target, but it also reduced the possible backtracking if the fox was west of Mission Blvd at all.

As I was driving down Fremont Blvd, I found the signal strength was not improving on my mobile radio. This was when I saw a school with a nice large open parking lot and decided to take another bearing. This time, I measured 301° and I was very happy I didn't take the freeway to Mission Blvd now.

While in the parking lot of the school swinging my Yagi around, a driving instructor pulled up to me (he was using the empty lot for training) and asked what I was doing. I gave him the run down of ARDF and explained we were playing RF hide and seek. He then noticed all the antennas on my car and inquired about that. I was able to show him my gear and how it was tracking the signal. He became quite interested once he was reassured that I was not listening in on his phone calls or hacking the school. The student driver, however, was less impressed and wanted to continue with her lesson.

I drove several blocks down Fremont Blvd and at the intersection of Thornton Ave (where I had planned on turning north to head to the lake) and noticed that my mobile radio signal was now maxed out. I pulled over in a parking lot to take another reading. This time, my Yagi antenna pointed right down Fremont Blvd. I decided to continue down Fremont Blvd with the Kraken pointing almost directly straight in front of me.

I soon noticed an open field to my right, which was when the "you are here" radio started to play the song of the fox and the Kraken started to move from straight ahead to off to the right. A shopping center was just past the field and the Kraken was pointing to the shopping center with all its might. I decided to enter the driveway that leads to the back of the shopping center in hopes of finding a clearing to take another reading.

As I pulled in the shopping center, the Kraken once again pointed directly ahead of me. I saw an unfamiliar car with an antenna on it and sitting inside it is **Tony, AB6DR**, the foxmaster. I pulled over and pulled out the Yagi with the blue box to sniff around what I thought was a trash bin storage area and located the fox sitting on the fence of the neighboring field.

To my surprise, I was the first one there with only 11.1 miles traveled. Despite the fact that none of my measurements pointed directly at the fox, I was still able to find it.

I will be the fox master for the next hunt, **April 12 @4pm**. This will be a Tri-Valley hunt with the start point in Dublin. For more information please contact me at RDF@LivermoreARK.org or visit www.rdf-sf.org web site.

Livermore Half Marathon

George Moorehead, KG6GEM

This event was held on Sunday, March 2nd in Livermore. It had a great turnout, despite a forecast for significant rain. It turned out that showers were scattered and minimal.

Net Control was located on South J Street between 1st & 2nd Streets in Comm Support 131 (new vehicle wasn't ready yet).

The Start/Finish line was not too far away. The Half Marathon was a race that went from downtown Livermore to Sycamore Park to Holdner Park and back down Concannon Blvd. to Arroyo Rd to L Street to return to downtown Livermore.

Volunteer radio operators provided communications (emergency and regular) for the event needs. LARK provided a Bike Sweep (Rand W6TRM) and John W6JMK as a Rover for Sycamore Grove Park trail for the event.

Rand W6TRM, photo by Brian KM6EMU. *Below photo by Allen AK6FB*

There were approximately 1,750 runners for the Half Marathon and 601 runners for the 5K with a total of 2,351 running participants. There were zero requests for medical responses. The weather was intermitted showers at different locations on the course/route.

Photo by Brian KM6EMU

Participants took it in stride and seemed in good spirts. A few sported festive costumes, such as Grape Man and Banana Man. "Pace Setters" in bright orange were dispersed throughout with signs showing their run pace. Numerous spectators were on hand at the Wente checkpoint to cheer on the crowd with bells and signs.

Photo by Brian KM6EMU. *Grape Man Photo by Jerry N5KA*

One stalwart First Responder carried a flag representing their service while carrying an Oxygen Tank.

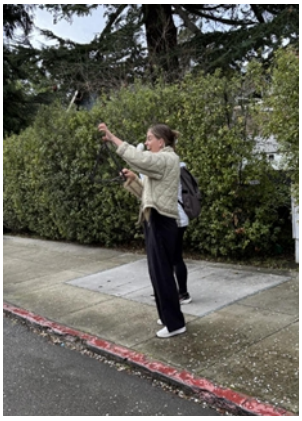
Livermore Mounted police helped to patrol Sycamore Grove.

Above First Responder photo by Brian KM6EMU

Mounted Patrol photo by Jerry N5KA

Sycamore Grove Station staying dry.

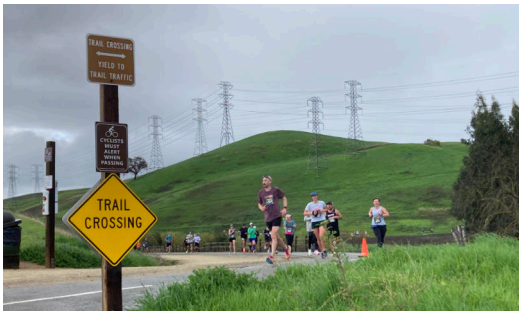
Dan KB6FF and Clancy NF6QQ, photo by John W6JMK



Left photo by Allen AK6FB

Below Simon KM6TRM, photo by Bill AJ6UU

Left and below photos by John, WB6ETY



I want to thank the following radio volunteers for giving up their Sunday morning for this event:

- **Jerry N5KA**
- **Larry KI6LNB**
- **Ruth KE6VOO**
- **Steve K8YIP**
- **Alan KM6BRQ**
- **Ryan W6RAM**
- **David K6WOO**
- **Bill AJ6UU**
- **Brian KF6ONF**
- **Rich KN6HSR**
- **Mark KK6UKU**
- **David KG6WIR**
- **Peter AI6RG**
- **Keith KC6JHF**
- **Clancy N6FQQ**
- **Dan KB6FF**
- **Chris W6CJQ**
- **John WB6ETY**
- **Rand W6TRM**
- **Allen AK6FB**
- **Brian KM6EMU**
- **William K7WDS**
- **Mike KO6HUE**
- **Bob KO6EWG**
- **Simon KM6TCM**
- **Matthew N4UDP**
- **John W6JMK**

Thanks to all the volunteers for their flexibility with all the changes that occurred for this event.

Jack Leroy Cutting (SK)

Jack LeRoy Cutting, resident of Livermore, passed away peacefully on February 5th 2025 at the age of 88, after battling kidney and congestive heart failure. He was born in Sacramento, CA and was the only child of Vera Wilhelmina Cutting (nee Snyder) and Ralph Hardy Cutting. When Jack was 4 years old, the family moved to Oakland, CA. His dad was the owner of Cutting's 5 & 10 cent store in the Fruitvale District. Vera was a homemaker, who canned fruits & vegetables (all home grown) and was avid at crocheting.

As a young boy Jack worked for his dad in the store doing various tasks, earning 40 cents/hour. He graduated from Fremont High School, Oakland in 1955. In his senior year, he met his future bride of 68 years, Marilyn Alice Felton. They married in 1956. Following high school, Jack served in the National Guard (8 years) attaining rank of Master Sergeant, while attending Oakland Junior College (2 years), then transferring to San Jose State University majoring in Biological Science. Jack's lifelong friend from high school encouraged Jack to apply for a job at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), and so he did in 1957 initially working part time while attending school. He eventually earned his B.S. from LLNL. In recent years, Jack worked in the High Explosive Applications Facility (HEAF), initially in Electronics Engineering and eventually as a Physicist. He retired from LLNL in 1999 but continued to work there part time until October 2024.

Jack was the proud father of Steven Roy Cutting (Kathy), Vicki Jean Cutting Schaefer (John) and Lynn Alice Wilson (preceded in death by Bob). He is also survived by his 8 grandchildren (Carson Cutting (Ceara) & Brenna Cutting; Jesse, Sam & Ellie Wilson; Melia, Keilani & Kai Schaefer) and 2 great grandchildren (Charlee & Calvin Cutting) who all call him "Papa Jack."

Jack & Marilyn traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and internationally. Boat cruises were one of his favorite modes of travel. Over the years Jack had several hot rods & boats he continually tinkered with. He was also a Corvette guy, who has owned at least one since the early 1960s. He built his first boat at age 14. He progressed to building the first family ski boat (Misty C), then a hot boat (Grumpy's Toy) that Steve & Vicki waterski raced behind. He then purchased a more family-oriented Spectra ski boat. He also enjoyed piloting their 34 ft Sea Ray Cruiser until September 2024. He & Marilyn were members of the Weber Point Yacht Club where Jack served in various staff officer positions over the years.

Jack was also a HAM radio operator (**W6UKW**) from the age of 14. He was a member of the Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) and was always prepared to help with any community crisis or event LARK supported.

There are many legacies that Jack has left, but one of the greatest is camping at Eagle Lake, CA since 1966. Although Jack & Marilyn had not been there for the past few years, their kids & grandkids still make the trek.

A memorial service will be held for friends and family at **First Presbyterian Church Livermore (FPCL) on Saturday March 22, 2025, at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary**, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Guide Dogs of San Rafael, the National Kidney Foundation (kidney.org), or FPCL Memorial Fund.

Training

MDARC General Class

Beginning March 25, 2025, Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club is offering a 9-week course plus a Get On The Air (GOTA). Course and GOTA cost is $15.

When Starting March 25, 2025 7-9pm, 9 sessions through May 20th

Where Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church
1578 Kirker Pass Rd.
Clayton, CA 94517 or Zoom

Questions See https://www.mdarc.org/education-and-testing/class-details for more information.

One-Day Ham Radio Class

Once again, volunteers from Benicia Amateur Radio Club will conduct a One-Day Ham Radio Class. This class is intended for those wishing to get an entry level technician license or existing Techs wishing to upgrade to General.

When May 3, 2025 8:30am-5pm

Where Benicia Senior Center
1201 East 2nd St.
Benicia, CA 94510

Cost $35 includes all study material, venue, refreshments, handouts, and exam fee. After the application is Processed by the FCC you will need to pay a separate $35 fee directly to FCC.

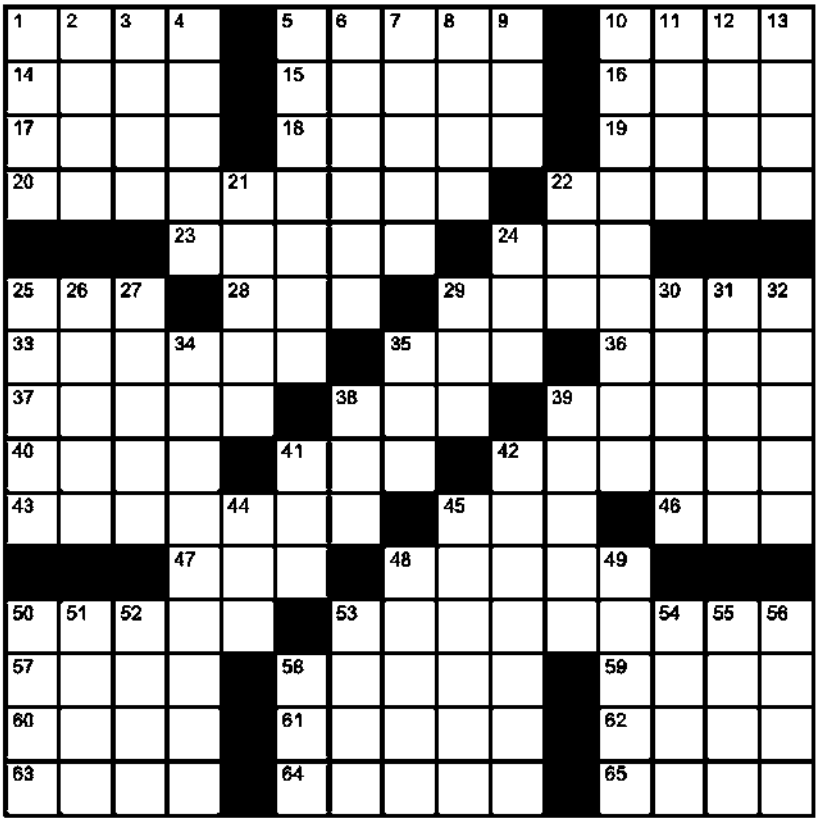
Info/Signup https://beniciaarc.com/hamclass/

Questions hamradioclass@beniciaarc.com or contact class coordinator Bob Fentress at 707-742-3227

Crossword Puzzle

by Chris Codella, W2PA 5/22/2009

Pins



Across

1. Tube connection*
5. Close-knit group
10. Tube conn.*
14. Verdi opera
15. Ten-Tec rig
16. Ten-Tec rig
17. After-bath powder
18. Kazakhstan prefix
19. Bushel quarter
20. With 53 across, describes the * words
22. Analyze syntactically
23. Window alternative
24. ARRL org. pertaining to SS, others
25. Beast of burden
28. Turner of TV channels
29. Platform on a ship's mast (a place for a /MM antenna?
33. Odwalla fruit and ___
35. Not brilliant
36. Best kind of tower
37. New England net
38. Transistor conn.*
39. Singer Ronstadt
40. UA assembly
41. Cutter
42. Digital mode
43. Delta follower
45. YLRL non-member
46. "___ we having fun yet?"
47. Caller for calls
48. T8 land
50. RG8 ground
53. See 20 across
57. CW
58. Thorny
59. 7800 maker
60. H.S. tests
61. Cycle user
62. Put one's foot down?
63. Transistor conn.*
64. TI land first name
65. D.C. group

Down

1. Tube or Transistor connection*
2. EP coin
3. Like some chatter
4. S2 capital, old-style
5. Swift horse
6. Noted traitor
7. Device with only a 25 down and 10 across
8. Recent UA prefix, especially, e.g. M-V Is.
9. W1 dir. from W7
10. Just fine
11. Part of ARRL (abbr.)
12. Ckts. for 42 across use
13. Go backpacking
21. Ten-Tec amplifier
22. Golfer's goal
24. Computer port type
25. Tube connection*
26. Gray line time
27. Flower towers
29. Tube conn.*
30. JA poem
31. OOTC member, to an OTC member, probably
32. Tube connection*
34. Smartest
35. Jones' partner
38. Plains states NTS org
39. KH6 porch
41. The only CW most people know
42. KH5 land
44. CRT successor
45. OJ0 reef
48. What output power does, in resonance
49. Ohms, volts, and others
50. Transistor connection*
51. Drift
52. Prefix with VOX
53. Kenwood, once
54. Antenna farm unit
55. "Crazy" bird
56. Tiny parts
58. Big G SW org.

Crossword Solution

Swap n' Shop Cave

Welcome the New Shop Keeper Mark Bowers, KK6UKU. Featured deals coming soon.

April Calendar

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

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

April

Date	Net Control
4/7/2025	Ed / AE6D
4/14/2025	EOC
4/21/2025	John / WB6ETY
4/28/2027	Jon / WB6AEA

May

Date	Net Control
5/5/2025	Ron / AD6KV
5/12/2025	EOC
5/19/2025	Ed / AE6D
5/26/2025	John / WB6ETY

June

Date	Net Control
6/2/2025	Jon / WB6AEA
6/9/2025	EOC
6/16/2025	Ron / AD6KV
6/23/2025	Ed / AE6D
6/30/2025	John / WB6ETY

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

Date	Primary Net Control	Backup Net Control
4/3/2025	Brian / KA6ZED	Rich / KN6HSR
4/10/2025	Don / W2DON	Bill / AJ6UU
4/17/2025	Peter / AI6RG	David / K6WOO
4/24/2025	Nate / N8MOR	Noah / N6TW
5/1/2025	Rich / KN6HSR	Brian / KA6ZED
5/8/2025	Bill / AJ6UU	Don / W2DON
5/15/2025	David / K6WOO	Peter / AI6RG
5/22/2025	Noah / N6TW	Nate / N8MOR
5/29/2025	Brian / KA6ZED	Rich / KN6HSR
6/5/2025	Don / W2DON	Bill / AJ6UU
6/12/2025	Peter / AI6RG	David / K6WOO
6/19/2025	Nate / N8MOR	Noah / N6TW
6/26/2025	Rich / KN6HSR	Brian / KA6ZED

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.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@gmail.com	925-786-0640
Treasurer	Peter Bedrossian	AI6RG	p.bedrossian@comcast.net	925-606-1342
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
	Steve Nissen	K8YIP	s.nissen55@gmail.com	650-270-3796
Repeater Chair	Ian Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian@gmail.com	
Web Site	Arnold Harding	KQ6DI		
Newsletter Editor	Gregory Kiyoi	KN6RUQ	gkiyoi@gmail.com	925-456-4734
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Net Coordinator	Ed Diemer	AE6D	ae6d@arrl.net	
RFI	Gary Johnson	NA6O	gwj@me.com	
T-Hunts	Brian Zoraster	KA6ZED	ka6zed@gmail.com	925-786-8412
	Rich Harrington	KN6FW		
Swap n Shop				
Ask the Elmer	Lee Zalaznik	KI6OY	lee.zalaznik@sbcglobal.net	925-699-5998

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.