

LARK NEWS July 2022



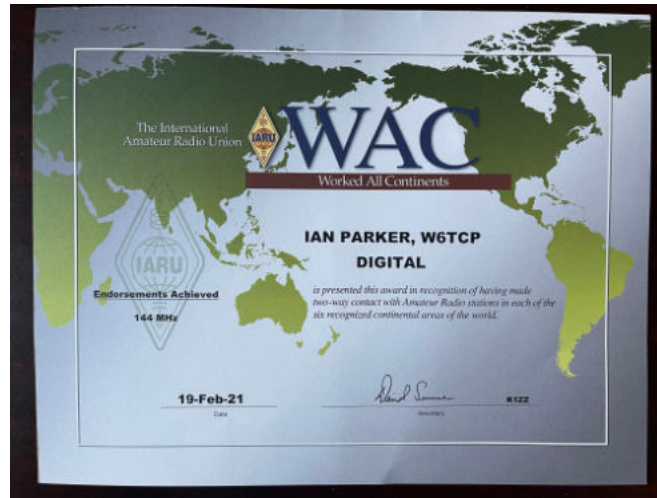
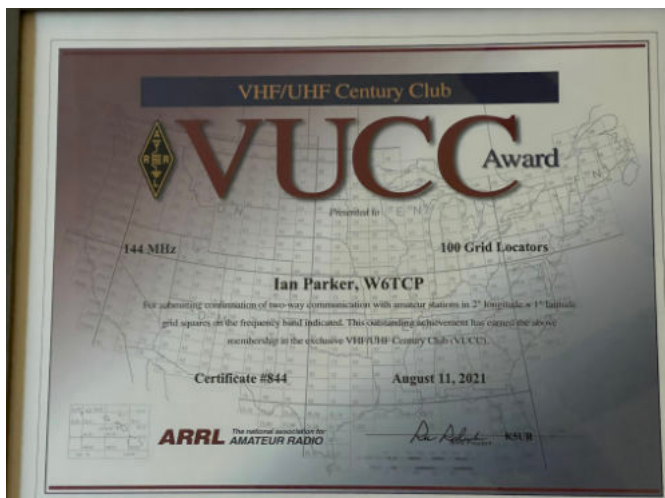
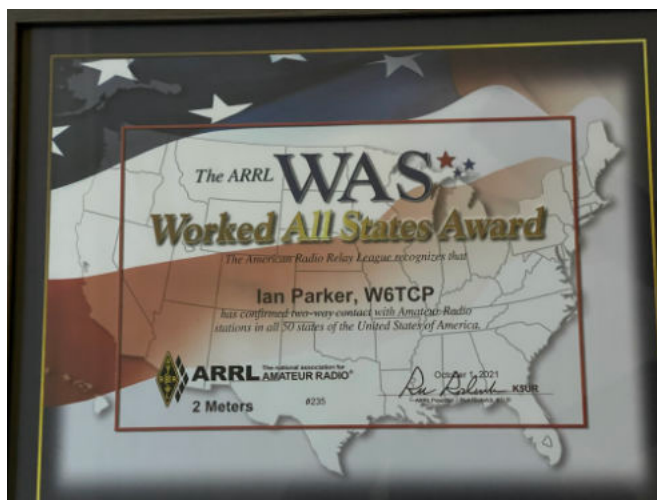
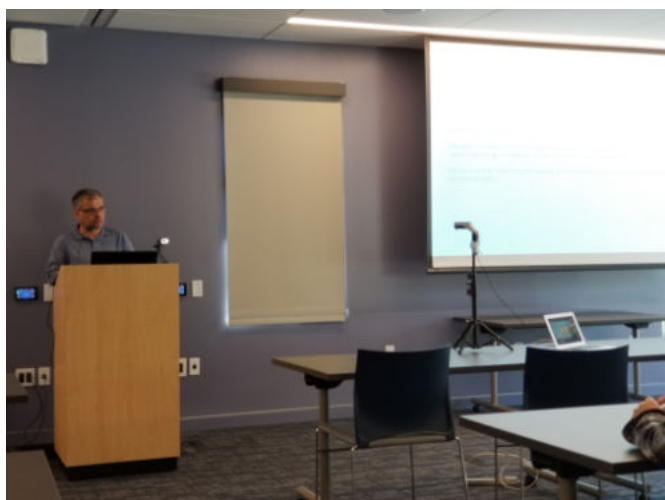
Livermore Amateur Radio Klub LARK is an ARRL affiliated club dedicated to Public Service Volunteer Emergency Communications.

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

NEW VENUE: 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



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livermoreark.org

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 the Events Chairperson (me) is following the upcoming events for 2022, and I have an update: the following events will be happening, the Patterson Pass Road Race on August 7th, Pacificon SWAP MEET on October 16th. Make sure to sign up on the LARK website for these events for which LARK supports. 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 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 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 very healthy 2022 and please stay safe.

KG6GEM
(kg6wui1@comcast.net)

Notes from the Editor

Summer brings 6m openings to life. This one is no exception and with sunspots creeping up our expectations are very high. The ARRL VHF contest saw a sample of that. Of course, these are Sporadic E openings, so that's the "magic" of it. You never know when, where, etc. Contests cover usually a weekend so the chances are you might hit a nice one. This year we saw a really nice one Sunday morning. Signals were so strong that even SSB came to life. Many operators had a blast. Of course, when the conditions changed the band closed and it became a dull but you never know if it's gonna open again...

Ian presented at our Monthly Meeting and inspired us to go and pursue any kind of award.

I operated in the All Asia DX Contest at N6RO under the K3EST call (Bob Cox). Activity was good albeit propagation conditions vary quite a bit with instability in the geomagnetic field Sunday morning. One of the few Contests where the West Coast might have an advantage over the other coast.

Field day is coming and this is your opportunity to take out



your gear and have some outdoor fun. Lots of stations to work in any mode/band. Besides the LARK BBQ. One of the few social events left over from the pre-Covid times.

Races, rides and community events are starting again and it's nice to see LARKers joining to show the service we provide.

California QSO Party is coming late September which provides yet another excellent opportunity to operate as everybody wants to work us. We are the "DX".

Pacificon in October! Lots of great activities coming up.

Roberto K6KM

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



The LARK Board Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm on June 16th, 2022, by President George KG6GEM. Bernie provided an email financial report and stated the finances for the club are good, We took in a deposit of \$400 from sales of estate equipment and spent \$800 in donated support to W6SRR repeater. Repeaters seem to work well, and no issues reported. Jerry N5KA, Activities chair has been developing the programs for the upcoming LARK monthly meetings and looking into possible topics for the Tech Meetings, more information will be provided as it develops. There was no Membership report. Field Day 2022 planning is ongoing and if there are any questions make sure and contact either Ron AD6KV or Nate N8MOR for details. George KG6GEM reported on events and that the signups are available for the Patterson Pass Road Race on August 7th, 2022, and the Pacificon Swap Meet on October 16th, 2022, we are still looking for someone to coordinate the LARK booth in the hallway for the Pacificon event. The board discussed the meeting location and how well things are coming together for the meetings at that location. This month's meetings will require attendees to wear masks as per Alameda County Health Department reinstating the indoor mask requirement, masks will be available if someone needs one. This year we will provide a year-end financial report in the LARK Newsletter. LARK By-Laws are being looked at one more time before finalizing this revision and before we send them along as documentation with the 501(c)3 documents.

With no further discussions the meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm by President George KG6GEM.

Minutes submitted by:
George KG6GEM

Monthly Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by George KG6GEM at 0935.

There were 33 members and one guest in attendance, 18 in person and 16 via Zoom.

After introductions, George introduced Ian, W6TCP who gave an informative and entertaining presentation about his “obsessive quest” for various awards for making contacts around the world and across the US, in particular for working all states on the VHF and UHF bands using tropospheric and meteor scatter as well as earth-moon-earth (EME) bounces to propagate signals on frequencies that ordinarily are only reliable over line of sight paths.

Following the presentation and a short break, reports from LARK officers and chairpersons were called for. Those reporting were: George, KG6GEM; Chris, W6CJQ; Bernie, NJ6W; Jerry, N5KA, Roger, KK6RD, and Roberto, K6KM.

George noted that two longtime LARK members became Silent Keys: Jackie Mode, KG6WOL and Rich Rankin, WM7P.

Jerry, N5KA - Activities Chairman: He reminded us that there is no Tech meeting scheduled for June 25 because of the ARRL Field Day activities that are planned. The presenter for our July general meeting will be Roberto, K6KM who will speak about his recent attendance at the Dayton Hamvention and his SOTA activities in the surrounding area.

George, KG6GEM - Events Chairman: Called for additional volunteers for the Patterson Pass Bicycle Race coming up on August 7. He also needs volunteers to man the swap meet at this year’s Pacificon. Additionally, he is looking for someone to organize a LARK PR table at Pacificon.

Bernie, NJ6W - Treasurer: Reported that the LARK bank balance is in line with previous years. During the reporting period there were two significant transactions: LARKS annual support for the operation and maintenance of the W6SRR repeaters (as approved at the May 2022 general meeting), and income from the sales ham equipment donated by the estates of Silent Key hams. The latter is currently being managed by Rich, KN6HSR.

Ian, W6TCP - Repeater Chairman: Repeater operations have been normal with no issues arising since his last report.

Minutes of the May 21, 2022 meeting were approved without changes.

No Tech meetings are currently scheduled.

George encouraged members interested in participating in ARES activities to contact Ron, AD6KV.

Roger, KK6RD presented sufficient photographic evidence (some thoroughly fried power leads) of his ability to choose the wrong wire. This earned him a Klutz Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 1040.

Community Events Supported by LARK

Patterson Pass Road Race – Sunday, August 7th

This event takes place in the hills east of Livermore on Sunday, August 7th. The races start at 8am and finish about 1pm. As a ham radio volunteer, you are there to provide emergency communications at planned stationary posts from 7am-1pm approx., there will be a radio check-in at 7:45am. The ham radio volunteer should be able to handle this assignment with a handheld.

Please support this event.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0844aead28a6fa7-patterson1>

PACIFICON - October 14-16, 2022 San Ramon Marriott

PACIFICON Swap Meet - Sunday, October 16th, 2022

The Swap Meet is held on Sunday morning at PACIFICON. LARK has hosted this event for the MDARC Radio Ham Club in the past years and have been requested to support the event again.

There are two shifts available:

LARK Ham Coordinator: George Moorehead (KG6GEM) kg6wui104

Sign Up online here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0844aead28a6fa7-pacificon1>

2022 Lake Chabot Trail Challenge - Rich KN6HSR



Supporting sporting events as a HAM can be fun and instructive. They can become especially instructive when the conditions are not what you expect. The 2022 Lake Chabot Trail Challenge includes an out and back 5k run, and a half marathon run around the lake. A slight chance of rain, 30%, was forecast for race day. Hey it never rains in California, at least not this year. Nonetheless I brought an umbrella and a rain jacket, and figured it would be enough. With

a half mile hike uphill to my post at Aid Station 3 I was plenty warmed up. Fog, but no rain...yet.

The plan was to use a simplex frequency, and HTs. There was some mention that propagation might not be adequate, so I brought along my 50W VHF rig, and the mag mount antenna from the car. Surely I could rig something up if needed. As the race got under way, so did a light drizzle. There seemed to be a problem with Net Control, or was it me?, but after a bit NC was on the air. I heard a few other stations checking in, but some required a relay to communicate with NC. So the 50W rig was set up, with the antenna precariously perched on a chain link fence. Ground plane? Don't need no stink'in ground plane! Especially with none available. I took pity on the young ladies running the aid station and lent them my umbrella. My rain jacket covered the bag with my radio and battery. That was fine until it really started raining, and the jacket went to me, I tucked the bag with the radio under a post at the guard rail, and used a plastic clipboard to shuttle the water off the bag. So major lesson here, be prepared to keep your

equipment, and yourself, dry in rainy weather. It happens.

As the event progressed it was clear that some of the other stations could not connect to NC, but I was able to hear them and relay reports. So lesson two, always bring as much power as you can. I also realized that when shuffling the radio around in the bag, the channel knob would get rotated, putting me on another channel. Fortunately I was also monitoring on my HT, which helped clue me in that something was amiss.



Lesson three, it's good to monitor on more than one radio at a time. After about four hours we all were relieved of duty, the race was a success, and I learned some valuable lessons. Now to set up that plastic go box!

Rich KN6HSR

Hiking Hurricane Hill and Mt. Walker with K6ROM



My parents live on the Olympic Peninsula of Washington, which has an abundance of summits within a relatively close ride from their house. After not seeing them for three years, I was excited to plan a trip up there with my middle and youngest children. Wanting to balance my time with family with time in the car and on the trails, we elected to make our way to Olympic National Park and to take a short hike up to Hurricane Hill. Our second SOTA excursion would take us to Mount Walker in Quilcene.

Hurricane Hill (W7W NO-86) is a paved hike, just past the main visitors

center on Hurricane Ridge. It is a 6 point, 5700 foot peak (you can earn 3 bonus points in the winter if you trek up in the snow). While we drove most of the way up, I thought we earned at least an extra point for navigating through some unexpected thick patches of snow for June (especially while wearing running shoes). I activated the peak on 2m with my Anytone 878 and Arrow Yagi. I had 7 QSOs while at the summit. My furthest contact was a QSO in White Rock, Canada. I also had a QSO with KL0NP, who is a flight nurse with Life Flight Network. He was based just down the mountain from me in Port Angeles. WA7JNJ has a great [youtube](#) video of the hike we took if you are ever interested in seeing some gorgeous vistas.



A few days later we decided to drive up to Mt. Walker (W7W NO-163). It is pretty much a drive up summit just off of Highway 101. When we arrived at the summit we found a ham operating as net control at the peak for a local bike race. He explained the elevation allowed for him to be in contact with everyone down below and gave him an excuse to try out a few of his radios (he lifted up about 8 in his hand when he showed me). Normally Mt. Walker provides an amazing view



of the surrounding areas. Unfortunately, the Pacific Northwest was living up to its reputation for us. We were just covered with rain clouds. Thankfully, propagation was good and I quickly got to work with my Anytone and Yagi so we didn't get too wet. The biggest highlight for me was my first QSO with my dad, W6TJJ. He had long encouraged me to get into amateur radio and was excited when I finally decided to get

my license in 2020. So, it was special to have him for my first contact. Coming in shortly after was a Summit to Summit with VE7JH who was activating VE7-CL048 for the first time. When I later looked him up on QRZ I learned he was named RAC Radio Amateur of the Year and VHFer for the Year by the Pacific Northwest Society.

I am appreciative that W6CMS introduced SOTA to me. It has led to some wonderful experiences that have made some lasting memories for me and my family. Having kept to my Anytone and Yagi, I have been able to make this an inexpensive hobby that travels well with me on vacation (FYI... TSA seems to appreciate it when you take your HT out of your carry-on first). 73s.



From the LARK CAVE

Rich has inventoried all the LARK owned equipment for sale. Please, take a look and take advantage of the LARK special pricing items.

We want our Members to use this gear and LARK to get resources to support our activities and repeaters.

A lot of things have found proud owners so the list keeps shrinking for the good of everybody.

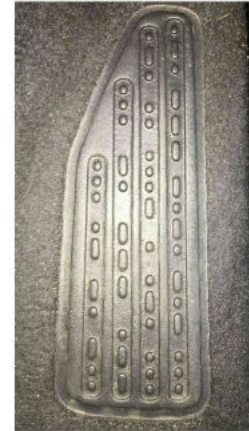
Please, reach to Rich Combs:
KN6HSR@arrl.net for details.

Pictures of the items at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19XXc8rYf7yv79wuGRpA5gBJKOji9itr0?usp=sharing>

Interesting Fact about Jeeps and Ham Radio

Did you know the left foot rest in some Jeeps carries this Morse code message: ROCKS RIVERS SNOW SAND? Such a cool Easter egg. Are you a ham who owns a Jeep?



Sent by Tony: KF6JS

Lark Swap n Shop Inventory

6/9/2022

	Type	List Price	LARK Price	Non Member Price	Notes
Mag mount antenna	Antenna		15	15	Have 4, one is 200 MHz, and others unknown.
Understanding Amateur Radio	Book		10	8	ARRL 1971
Radio Amateurs Handbook	Book		10	8	ARRL 1974
Kenwood PC-1A	Phone patch	30	10	15	
DC power supply 5-15 V	Power Supply		15	20	Unknown current
LED 22024A	Power Supply	13	7	10	12-15 VDC 10 Amps Model 350xT RC Systems
LED 21758	Power Supply	9	7	10	6-12 VDC 3 Amps RC Systems
Mirage B1016G	RF Amplifier	275	45	60	144-148 MHz 10 W in - 160 W out
Mirage D1010	RF Amplifier		35	40	430-450 MHz 10 W in - 100 W out
Mirage C22A	RF Amplifier	137	30	35	220 Mhz 2 W in - 20 W out
Mirage B23A	RF Amplifier		30	35	2 M 30 W SSB/FM
Yeasu FT2500	Transceiver	100	25	35	
Swan 350	Transceiver	200	35	45	w/SWAN 117 XC Power Supply & Instruction Manual Tube type
Norcal SMK-1	Keyer		7	10	From a kit 7.040MHz

July 2022

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	
				1 RAC Canada Day	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9 IARU HF Contest	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16 LARK Monthly Meeting	17	
18	19	20	21 LARK Ham Breakfast	22	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

July

August

September

DAY	OP	NAME
04	AD6KV	Ron
11	EOC	
18	AE6D	Ed
25	N5KA	Jerry

DAY	OP	NAME
1	WB6ETY	John
8	EOC	
15	WB6AEA	Jon
22	AD6KV	Ron
29	AE6D	Ed

DAY	OP	NAME
5	N5KA	Jerry
12	EOC	
19	WB6ETY	John
26	WB6AEA	Jon

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

7/7/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	Advanced Tech Discussion
7/14/2022	Thursday	David/K6WOO	Peter/AI6RG	New Comer, General Discussion:
7/21/2022	Thursday	Jerry/N5KA	Nate/N8MOR	Study Night: General Exam
7/28/2022	Thursday	Peter/AI6RG	Rich/KN6HSR	Easy Tech Discussion:
8/4/2022	Thursday	Nate/N8MOR	David/K6WOO	General Discussion:
8/11/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	Advanced Tech Discussion
8/18/2022	Thursday	David/K6WOO	Peter/AI6RG	New Comer, General Discussion:
8/25/2022	Thursday	Jerry/N5KA	Nate/N8MOR	Study Night: General Exam
9/1/2022	Thursday	Peter/AI6RG	Rich/KN6HSR	Easy Tech Discussion:
9/8/2022	Thursday	Nate/N8MOR	David/K6WOO	General Discussion
9/15/2022	Thursday	Rich/KN6HSR	Jerry/N5KA	Advanced Tech Discussion
9/22/2022	Thursday	David/K6WOO	Peter/AI6RG	New Comer, General Discussion:
9/29/2022	Thursday	Jerry/N5KA	Nate/N8MOR	Study Night: General Exam

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: 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	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	Ian 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 : <https://twitter.com/LivermoreARK>



Special interests: Mesh Networking. Dave KK6DF <http://mesh.sushisoft.com> . <https://www.youtube.com/user/fanninsushi/videos>. View: AREDN!<http://www.aredn.org>. **CERT NEWS:** Tracy Hein CERT contact. Email: thein@lpfire.org or (925) 454 -2317 https://community.fema.gov/Register/Register_Program_View?id=a0xt000000mAuZAAE

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.	
<p>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.</p>	