



The LED

The newsletter of the Livingston Amateur Radio Klub (LARK)

Howell, Michigan

December 2018



Who 8 Darrell's Bacon
W8DSB

Are ham radio operators leeches? One definition is “a person who stays around other people and uses them for personal gain”. Let’s consider this for a moment. Can we operate just anywhere we want on the bands? My rules would say “Yes” but the FCC and the ARRL say “No”. We have a band plan. This band plan is split up so we have a sliver of spectrum from DC to light. The sliver provided to us is always near public service frequencies. Why? Because manufacturers do not spend millions developing radios for 1% of the world’s population. They develop(ed) radios based on military contacts, private contracts, and the masses (GRMS, FRS, cell phones). Once

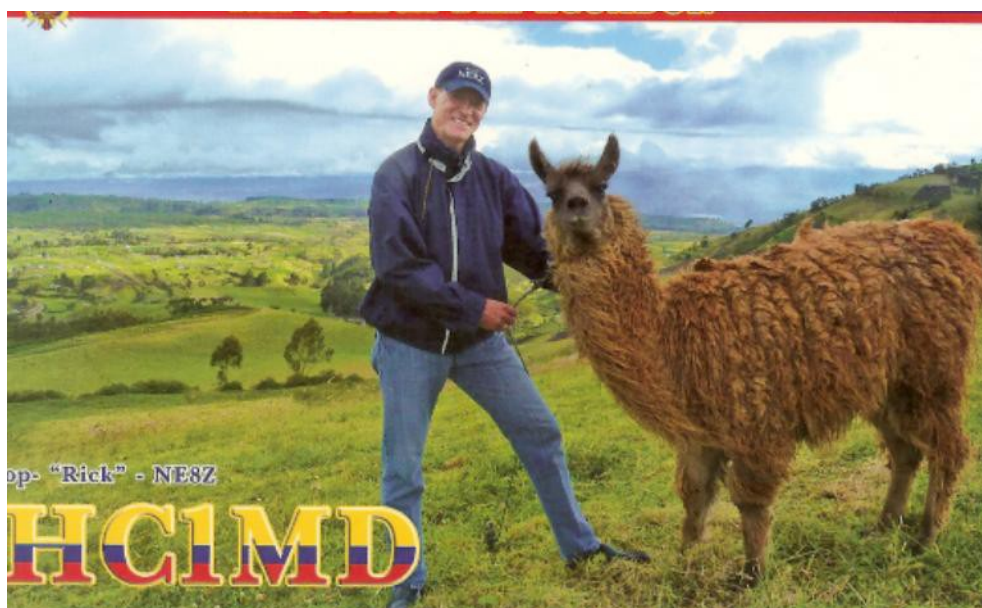
the contracts are fulfilled, the technology is stable, and the patents run out, the radios trickle down to us radio operators. These radios can be in the form of new, new old stock or surplus. This is the same for many software packages. Let's look at JT65 and FT8. Do we think Joe Taylor an American astrophysicist and Nobel Prize winner wrote these programs so we can chase grid squares? It's more likely his team was contracted to develop long range, weak signal communications for submarines, space stations, modules and probes. We benefit from the software as it's declassified and released for our use.

Let us take a look at newer technologies. DMR, DStar, C4FM. DStar was written by hams for hams. This technology works very well, easy to program and use, because it was written for us. C4FM seems to work very well also because it was written by hams for hams. So why is there fewer DStar and C4FM users combined than DMR users? Because DMR radios are cheap and the technology is solid in commercial environments. The mode is the hardest to use and to program, however there are 116,000 users and it's growing each week.

Let's extend this thought to not just ham radio operators but to all humans. A few examples, Bell Labs was working on the solid state replacement for the vacuum tube for many years but they were not successful until the end of 1947, when they were able to make a doped transistor function. Many groups worked on the concept of fiber optics but it was not until 1954 when Corning Glass and Bell Labs became able to create a low loss fiber network. Why is this important? Because the vacuum tube replacement was actually the FET not the transistor. It was a known fact that we were looking at fiber optics to view inside the human body, not as a communication connection until the crash in 1947 in Roswell NM. Who's the leech now?

73 de W8DSB

Hamburg Ham in Ecuador



Rick Dorsch NE8Z is a world traveller-DXer and resident of nearby Hamburg, MI. According to his QRZ.com page, Rick has operated from lots of countries, including: 3A/NE8Z, 4O/NE8Z, 8P9DR, 9A/NE8Z, 9H3EE, C6AEZ, CT/NE8Z, CX/NE8Z, E7/NE8Z, EA/NE8Z, EA9/NE8Z, F0MH, F/NE8Z/p, FG0MH, HB9/NE8Z, HC1EE, HC5EE, HC7EE, HC8EE, HC8MD, HC8VHF, HC8X, HC9A, HD5EE, HD8CD, HD8EE, HD9EE, HD9X, HD0E, HD0EE, HR9/NE8Z, I/NE8Z, KZ5GC, KC8HPT, LU/NE8Z, LZ/NE8Z, M/NE8Z, NE8Z/C6A, NE8Z/HC8, NE8Z/KP2, NE8Z/KP4, NE8Z/NH7, NE8Z/OA4, NE8Z/PJ3, NE8Z/TI2, NE8Z/VE, NE8Z/VP2V, OA7MP, P4/NE8Z, PJ4/NE8Z, PJ8RD, PY/NE8Z, S5/NE8Z, SP/NE8Z, SP9E, SV1/NE8Z, SV2/NE8Z, SV4/NE8Z, SV8/NE8Z, TA1/NE8Z, TA4/NE8Z, TI1T, V31ZE, VP2AAB, VP2EEL, WB8ABN, WN8ABN, WW8DX, XE/NE8Z, XE3HLV, YO4/NE8Z, YV5/NE8Z, ZB2/NE8Z, ZF1CW, ZF2ZE. I have worked Rick from several of his DX locations, one of which was Ecuador, for which I received the above QSL card. I can't tell an alpaca from an llama, but the one on the card has got to be one or the other.

Among other things, Rick hosts the **SEMDXA** (SouthEast Michigan DX

Association) **Christmas luncheon**, which this year will take place on **Friday, December 14, beginning at about 10:30** when the coffee drinkers gather before moving into the lunch room at **Zukey Lake Tavern**, located in Pinckney at 5011 Girard Drive. Directions can be had at its website: <http://www.zukeylaketavern.com/>

Lunch is ordered at noon, and the pizza buffet and salad bar is a favorite. Lots of DXers and non DXers show up for this luncheon. It is usually crowded, so plan on getting there early. There is usually a short business meeting at some point, which doesn't last long, the rest of the time is all ragchewing. Several LARK members usually attend.

Submitted by Tom KT8Y

DXing in 1973 and How to Get a QSL Card



When I was a young, budding DXer, I used to come home from high school and run up to my room and turn on my Heathkit HW-16, for which I owned several crystals for 15 meters. In those days, the big, bad FCC wouldn't let novices transmit on anything other than a crystal controlled transmitter. That meant NO VFO's! You had to find a crystal (I preferred ones made by Texas Crystal) near to the frequency where you wanted to listen, and 15 meters was pretty wide in the CW portion (did I mention novices could only use CW?) Anyway, I would tune up my HW-16 on my

dipole-in-the-attic and listen around for anything out there. Novice licenses were good for two years, I think, but I got my general class license before one year was out. Then, I could get on phone. I bought a used Heathkit HW-32A from Amateur Electronic Supply (see article, below), which had a 200 watt input and only worked on SSB. But it was a single band rig (20 meters) and I wanted to get on other phone bands, but had no money left over. A priest in my parish was a ham and had a Collins KWM-2A transceiver, which he let me borrow for a month or two! Now that was great fun. That KWM-2A had a terrific receiver, and was a top-of-the-line rig. Collins was making tons of those rigs in the 1960's for use in Vietnam, but they still commanded a high price. Funny thing is, they are even pricier today!

One day I called CQ on 15 meters SSB and someone with a funny prefix returned my call. Said his call was CR5AJ. Turns out he was from Sao Tome, Portuguese West Africa. Sao Tome and the neighboring island of Principe, are islands off the west equatorial coast of Africa, which were appropriated by Portugal in the 16th Century and later became a convenient slave depot and sugar cane producer. Before the islands became independent in 1975 and adopted the name Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, it was known simply as Portuguese West Africa. The prefix used in 1973 when I worked Horacio was CR5. When it became independent, the prefix became S9, and the country became what is known for DXCC purposes as Sao Tome and Principe.

When I worked this guy, I didn't realize just how good the DX contact was. I thought all general class licensees could just call CQ and get African stations to reply. I learned later that I was just lucky.

I got the QSL card shown above by one of several methods we used back then. Sometimes DX stations would actually respond to cards sent via Bureaus. A few DX stations had QSL managers that you could send a card to. But more likely, the DX country had no Bureau, no manager and the DX stations couldn't afford postage for all the folks who wanted their QSL cards, so we used a system of sending IRC's (International Reply Coupons), which the DX station could exchange for postage at the local post office. You had to go to the U.S. Post Office to buy them, but a lot of post offices around the country hadn't the foggiest idea what an IRC was. My local post office did know what they were and I could go there to buy them, but they were relatively expensive (I can't remember exactly how much, but more than I

would have liked to pay). There was, however, a kind of “underground” market for IRC's. Some DX stations or their QSL managers would keep the IRC's sent to them but send their QSL's to the U.S. Bureau. Then, they would discount the IRC's they had received and advertise them for sale, so you didn't have to pay the high post office prices for them. As the years went by, some DX stations started insisting on multiple IRC's for a return QSL, claiming that they couldn't exchange one IRC in their country for an airmail first class stamp. One IRC was supposed to get them one airmail first class stamp but I guess inflation or greed took over and sometimes the DX station would require 2 or even 3 IRC's. I don't think back then I was using “Green Stamps” (U.S. Dollar bills) to send to DX stations to get cards, but that became the most favorite method years later and is still a popular method. But nowadays, the standard is to use the OQRS system, which involves sending money via PayPal. Or, some folks don't do many cards anymore, and use Logbook of the World (LOTW) to get DX credit. Whatever works. But I admit I still like to get cards. Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Amateur Electronic Supply (SK)

Many of you Old Tymers out there will remember Amateur Electronic Supply with great fondness. I do, and I recall buying a bunch of stuff from them over the years. For you New Tymers, AES was a Wisconsin amateur equipment seller which advertised regularly in QST. One of the things AES did was to sell (and guarantee) used equipment. The following is an ad out of the May 1971 QST which listed the used equipment available that month from AES (*used with permission of the ARRL from May 1971 QST*). There is some stuff here to make your mouth water, especially at 1971 prices. And note the 30 day guarantee and the 10 day free trial. AES finally went out of business, I think just a few years ago, and the remnants of the business went to HRO, if I recall correctly. For years AES was a big player in the ham radio equipment field. Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Reconditioned Equipment

- 30-Day Guarantee
- 10-Day Free-Trial (Lose only Shipping Charges)
- Full Credit within 6 Months on Higher-Priced New Equipment
- E-Z Terms! - Convenient Revolving Charge Plan
- Order directly from this ad! ...Specify 2nd and 3rd Choices (if any)

AMECO		G-76 DC supply	59	V-107 VHF VFO	19
CN-50 (14-18)	\$ 34	G-76 calibrator	9	Star Roamer Rec.	19
PV-144 Preamp	12	G-76 AC supply	75		
PS-1 AC supply	8	G5B-100 Xmtr	169		
B & W		HALLICRAFTERS		LAFAYETTE	
5100B Xmtr	\$119	SX-71 Receiver	\$ 99	HA-9 VFO	\$ 29
6100 SSB Xmtr	275	SX-101 Mk III Rec	139	HA-460 6m Xcvr	79
515B-B SSB adapt.	109	SX-101A Receiver	199	HA-230 Receiver	59
CLEGG/		SX-111 Receiver	139	MILLEN	
SQUIRES-SANDERS		SX-130 Receiver	149	92200 Transmatch	\$109
99'er 6m Xcvr	\$ 69	SX-146 Receiver	175	NATIONAL	
417 AC sup. mod.	75	HT-32B Xmtr	299	NC-98 Receiver	\$ 79
Zeus VHF Xmtr	289	HT-40 Xmtr	49	NC-125 Receiver	89
Interceptor Rec.	249	HT-44 Xmtr	225	NC-300 Receiver	139
Interceptor B Rec.	325	HT-46 Xmtr	225	VFO-62	29
Venus Xmtr.	199	SR-150 Xcvr	289	HRO-60 Receiver	225
416 AC supply	75	SR-160 Xcvr	169	XCU-300 Calibrator	9
SS Booster	49	PS-150-120 AC sup.	75	NCX-3 Xcvr	169
Apollo Linear	175	PS-150-12 DC sup.	75	NCX-5 Xcvr	349
SS-1V Band Scanner	95	MR-150 Rack	15	NCX-5 Mk II Xcvr	389
(new closeouts)		SR-34AC Xcvr	149	NCXA AC supply	69
COLLINS		HA-1 Keyer	59	300 Transceiver	239
75A-1 Receiver	\$139	HA-4 Keyer	49	AC-200 AC supply	59
75A-2 Receiver	219	HAMMARLUND		P & H	
75A-3 Receiver	269	HQ-100C Receiver	\$109	LA-400C Linear	\$ 99
75A-4 (ser.#601)	349	HQ-110C Receiver	129	7-150 SSB conv.	189
75A-4 (ser.#2274)	375	HQ-110AC Rec	169	POLYTRONICS	
75A-4 (ser.#3155)	425	HQ-145XC Rec	169	PC-6 6m Xcvr	\$139
Speaker (A1,A2,A3)	9	HQ-170A Receiver	229	PC-62B 6-2m Xcvr	
22V-3 Xmtr	175	HQ-170AC Receiver	239	(AS-IS)	75
325-1 Xmtr	349	HQ-200 Receiver	169	RME	
325-3 Xmtr	575	HQ-205 Rec w/11m	159	DB-23 Preselector	\$ 29
KWM-2 Xcvr	595	SP-600JX26 Rec.	275	VHF-126 Converter	99
516F-1 AC supply	75	S-100 Speaker	12	Clipper	19
R. L. DRAKE		HK-1B Keyer	39	SBE	
2B Receiver	\$189	HEATH		SB-33 Transceiver	\$179
2BQ Spkr/O-mult.	79	HR-20 Receiver	\$ 89	SBI-LA Linear	149
2CQ Spkr/O-mult.	34	SB-300 Receiver	225	SB-34 Transceiver	289
R-4B Receiver	349	SB-301 Receiver	249	SB2-LA Linear	189
DC-4 DC supply	95	SB-500 2m Xverter	175	SB-34 (new closeout)	349
TR-4 Xcvr	439	XC-6 6m Converter	25	SB2-LA (closeout)	229
RV-4 Remote VFO	69	SB-310 S W. Rec.	249	SIGNAL/ONE	
TC-7	225	SBA-300-3 2m Conv.	19	CX-7 Xcvr	\$1195
EICO		SBA-400-4 6m Conv	19	SINGER	
753 SSB Xcvr	\$129	SB-600 Speaker	15	PR-1 Panadaptor	\$ 95
751 AC (new kit)	54	DX-100 Xmtr	89	SWAN	
752 DC (new kit)	49	DX-100B Xmtr	99	SW-240 (early)	\$159
ELDICO		TX-1 Xmtr	115	SW-240 Xcvr (late)	169
TFP-1 Ph. Patch	\$ 25	HX-10 Xmtr	189	117AC AC supply	59
ELMAC		HX-20 Xmtr	129	400 w/410 VFO	250
AF-68 Xmtr	\$ 69	HX-30 6m Xmtr	175	400 w/420 VFO	275
PMR-8 Receiver	79	HW-17 75m Xcvr	89	400 Xcvr (no VFO)	175
RVP-250 DC supply	15	HW-32 20m Xcvr	89	350 Xcvr (late)	289
PSR-612 DC supply	19	HW-10 6m Xcvr	139	350C Xcvr	329
GLOBE/GALAXY/WRL		HW-17A 2m Xcvr	125	512 DC supply	75
LA-1 Linear	\$ 59	HP-20 AC supply	29	500 Xcvr	339
Hi-Bander 62	89	HP-23 AC supply	45	500C Xcvr	369
DSB-100 SSB Xmtr	49	HRA-10-1 calibrator	9	117XC AC supply	80
Galaxy V Xcvr	279	HEWLETT PACKARD		14-117 DC supply	100
GT-550 Xcvr	339	HP-410BR VTVM	\$125	14X DC module	49
AC-35 AC supply	65	HICKOCK		117X Basic AC sup.	65
AC-400 AC supply	75	221 tube tester	\$150	508 Remote VFO	100
VX-III VOX	9	HUNTER		260 Cygnet	295
CAL-25 Calibrator	15	1000A Linear sup	\$175	250 6m Xcvr	229
DAC-35 Dis. console	75	2000A Linear	275	250C 6m Xcvr	325
2000 Lin. Sup.	295	JOHNSON		210 VFO	75
(new closeout)		Kanger I	\$ 89	TV-2 Transverter	219
Duo-Bander Xcvr	99	Valiant I	139	TV-2B Transverter	249
Economy DC supply	49	500 Transmitter	375	UTICA	
FM-210 2m FM Xcvr	149	Courier Linear	139	650 6m Xcvr/VFO	\$ 69
AC-210 AC supply-	34	6N2 VHF Xmtr	95	650A 6m Xcvr/VFO	79
booster for FM-210		6N2 VFO	34	VIBROPLEX	
CONSET		6N2 conv (14-18)	29	Presentation - left-	
Comm II 6m	\$ 79	KING		hand, with case	\$ 39
Comm III 6m	99	DB-6R Preselector	\$ 29	WATERS	
Comm IV 2m	199	KNIGHT		Codax Keyer	\$ 59
GC-105 2m Xcvr	149	R-100 Receiver	\$ 56	369A Reflectometer	59
G-50 Xcvr	169	TR-106 6m Xcvr	79		
900A 2m Xcvr	199	NEED CASH?			
901A AC supply	39				
910A 6m Xcvr	199				
911A AC supply	39				
G-66B Receiver	39				
Thin Pak	19				
G-76 Xcvr	99				

We'll buy your ham gear for spot cash. Tell us what you have to sell and we'll rush our offer.

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4828 West Fond du Lac Ave. Milwaukee, Wis. 53216

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Upcoming SWAPS **(courtesy of K8JK, ARRL Michigan Section Manager)**

January 27th, 2019 Hazel Park Swap
February 17th, 2019 Livonia Swap
March 16th, 2019 Crossroads Swap (Kalamazoo)

For the New Ham on HF

As a follow up on the discussion of antenna matching networks in last month's LED, I ran across a good article in an old QST on the topic of antennas, feedlines and matching systems, in the **May 1971 QST, p. 33**. The article is entitled *Some Plain Facts About Antennas, Feeders and Transmatches*, and was written by Lew McCoy, W1ICP, a prolific writer for QST. The article discusses some basic issues of impedances, reactances and the like, without getting overly technical. The article can be accessed by ARRL members by going to the ARRL webpage, www.arrl.org, and going to the QST page, and searching in the **QST Archive 1915-2011**. Search by the month and year of the article, or just go to the May 1971 QST and scroll through the articles.

If you are not an ARRL member, unfortunately you do not have access to the archive. BUT you do have an opportunity to join the League by clicking on the "Membership" button at the top of the ARRL webpage. Then, you will have access to a lot of very helpful information, not to mention the archive!

So, we have covered some basic information on simple dipole antennas, buying a first transceiver, and assembling some vital accessories (SWR/wattmeters and antenna matching networks). So plug everything in, turn it all on, then what?

Listen. Then listen some more. And after you have finished that, try listening again. Even olde tymers like me spend the vast majority of our time in our shacks, listening. If you listen, you will learn.

Pick a band which has a few signals on it and go up and down the band listening. You will hear how other folks conduct themselves, what they talk about, and how they say it. You will begin to form your radio personality, such as whether you want to be a ham on 80 meters who uses all manner of filthy language, doesn't follow any rules and thinks he is the king of the world, or whether you want to practice cordiality and learn etiquette and try not to repeat (inaccurate) technical information about which you don't really know a darn thing.

Then, when you feel you can overcome the butterflies in your stomach, answer someone's CQ, and see what happens!!

Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Gov. Rick Snyder signs legislation expanding Michigan's 'Move Over Law' to protect more people

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018

LANSING, Mich. – Drivers will now be required to slow down and move over when passing emergency, maintenance, and utility vehicles on the road under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

“This legislation will better protect those responding to emergencies as well as workers on busy roadways,” Snyder said. “My hope by signing this bill is that more Michiganders will slow down and give a lane.”

Senate Bill 477, sponsored by state Sen. Dale Zorn, will require drivers to slow to 10 mph below the posted speed limit as well as yield their lane, if possible, when passing police or emergency vehicles on the side of the road. The bill also includes roadside tow trucks, garbage trucks, maintenance, and utility vehicles that have amber lights flashing. Violations would be a civil offense subject to a \$400 fine. The bill is now Public Act 349 of 2018.

Press release November 15, 2018, from office of Gov. Snyder, thanks to
Bruce Pollock N8WWX for this information

Upcoming Contests

8-9 December **ARRL 10 Meter Contest** 0000 UTC Saturday to 2359 UTC Sunday

Even at this low point in the sunspot cycle, you will hear lots of stations, CW and SSB, playing in this one. Serious contesters and folks just making a few contacts will be out there. Listen for band openings which are quite likely to occur. But even so, I think that Caribbean stations will be out there during most of the contest. Details at <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

15 December **ARRL Rookie Roundup-CW** Sunday 1800 UTC to 2359 UTC. This contest is one which is held three times a year and is designed to encourage “rookies” to try contesting. The December contest is for CW only. Olde Tymers are encouraged to mentor the “rookies” and to contact them to give out some points. What constitutes a “rookie” and contest rules can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>.

1 January **Straight Key Night** 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC
Not a contest, just encouragement to drag out your old straight or bug and make CW contacts. More of a “heritage” event, but entries can be sent to the ARRL. See <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

There are lots of other contests in December which can be found at the **ARRL Contest Corral** at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2018/December%202018%20Corral.pdf>

If you want to compete in any of them, great! If you want to just make a few contacts, simply learn the exchange and go for it!

Editorial- ARRL Division Elections

The results are in for the voting for directors in several ARRL Divisions, and

your editor notes that some of the winners were known to be those encouraging more transparency in the ARRL. There certainly are instances where confidentiality is required, for example, in dealing with personnel matters or in contract negotiations. But transparency at the top is generally a very good thing, and particularly with a large group of ham radio operators, your editor believes that the ARRL Board of Directors should be quickly heading to much more transparency than has been shown in the recent past. Hopefully this will be the case.

Tom Auth, KT8Y, LED Editor

Merry Christmas 1919

The following is reprinted with permission of the ARRL. It is the cover of QST from December, 1919, after World War I had ended. Note the 15 cent price. And, note the abbreviation for Christmas. I wonder just when “Xmas” was first used. Restrictions on ham radio transmitting ended on October 1, 1919, according to United States Early Radio History, by Thomas H. White.

December

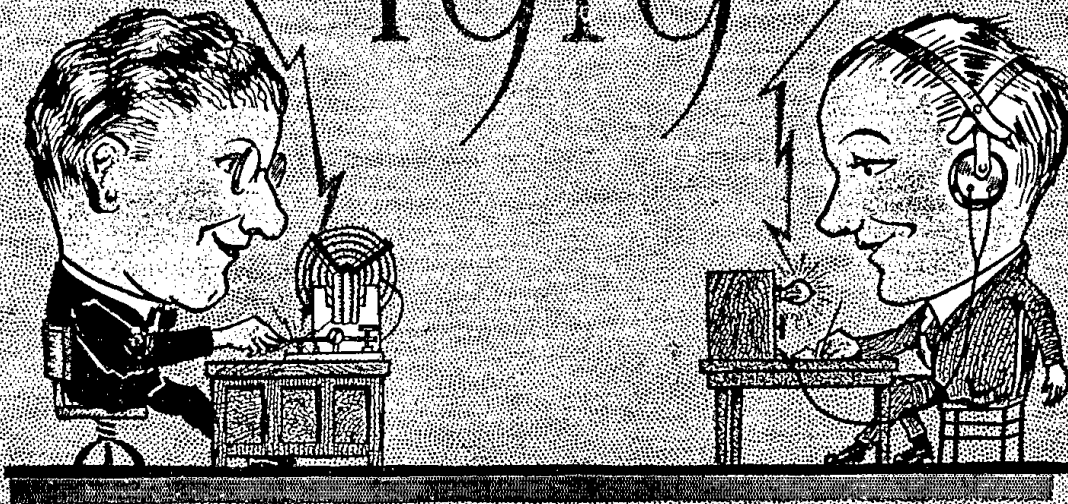
Price 15¢

QST

A MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE USES OF THE WIRELESS AMATEUR

MERRY XMAS

1919



Everybody in the A.R.R.C.
wishes every other amateur
A very Merry Christmas
and A Happy New Year.

H.P. TRICK

The word from Jones

Ralph Steinberger of Brighton knew the name sounded familiar when he watched the network news lately. He went into a room, looked it up—and found that yes, he had talked to People's Temple head Rev. Jim Jones.

Steinberger, a ham radio operator, says he talked with the cult leader who presided over the mass suicide of 900 People's Temple followers last March. In a conversation lasting no more than 10 minutes, Jones told Steinberger about the good works the cult was performing in the faraway South American land of Guyana.

Steinberger said he contacted the late cult leader after first hearing him talking with a San Francisco doctor—but added it's not unusual for him to talk with distant persons, like the scientists stationed at the South Pole that he talked to last week. "They said it was 40 below," Steinberger noted.

After talking with Jones via his 2000-watt ham radio, Steinberger said he received a card from the man. The card told of People's Temple efforts to feed, clothe and house persons there. The card called Guyana an "very beautiful country" and added "people here are very friendly to the U.S.A." It closed with this salutation: "See you later. Jim."

From the Livingston County Daily Press and Argus 6 December 1978

I ran across this article from the *Livingston County Daily Press and Argus* and thought this might just be a LARK member who had made the QSO with the infamous Jim Jones of Jonestown, Guyana. I contacted Ralph, KW8G, and he confirmed that he was indeed the ham referred to in the article. His callsign at the time was WB8VCC, and he explained to me that Jim Jones, with whom he spoke on 20 meters SSB, did not have a license, but was using the station of WB6MID/8R3. That call was assigned to Albert Touchette, who according to a researcher, was a conditional class licensee from California. See <https://jonestown.sdsu.edu/> According to Find a Grave, *findagrave.com*, Albert was born in Indiana in 1954, and died with his mother and two siblings, on November 18, 1978, the date of the infamous Kool-Aid event at Jonestown, at the age of 24.



Photo of Albert Touchette WB6MID/8R1 from Find a Grave
Ed: what a complete waste

The QSL card received by Ralph is below. Note that it is signed by both “Al and Jim”, but Ralph says he talked only with Jim. The bizarre story of the final days of Jim Jones' cult is described in Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonestown> It involves the murder of a U.S. Congressman and 908 murders/”suicides”. Submitted by Tom KT8Y

PEOPLES TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL / MEDICAL PROJECT



WB6 MID/8R3

ALBERT TOUCHETTE • JONESTOWN Port Kaituma, N.W.R., Guyana, S. A.

Peoples Temple
Agricultural/Medical Project

Working to assist the Guyanese Government to feed, clothe, and house its people, and further the human service goals that have characterized Peoples Temple.

Radio WB8VCC confirming our QSO on 3/7/78

GMY 0500 UR SSR X CW AM

RST 5/6 MHz 14 XMTR YAESU RCVR 101EE

Antenna MOSLEY CL 36 Comments:

Thanks for the QSL. This is a very beautiful country. The people are very friendly to the USA. They are doing a great job and appreciate whatever encouragement offered. Best wishes to you and yours.

CUL 73's

Al Touchette
WB6 MID/8R3

Albert Touchette - Jonestown
Port Kaituma, N.W.R., Guyana



AIR MAIL

Post Card

Ralph E. Steinberger
7505 Herbst Road
Brighton, Michigan
48116



USA

Ham radio offered

HOWELL—Anybody want to be a ham? A ham radio operator that is.

Members of the Livingston Amateur Radio Klub, are offering a free class in Morse Code and radio theory to anyone that is interested, male or female.

The class will be taught at the Livingston County Sheriff's Department beginning Thursday, October 17 at 7:30. If enough people show interest, it will be moved to the high school.

The course will be taught by LARK members, who

also stress that anyone who is interested in joining the radio club is welcome at the meetings held the first Tuesday of every month at the sheriff's department.

The club participates in various weather watches with the sheriff's department and was involved with the Walk for Mankind.

There are currently 40 members in the county, and 21 of them are active in the club. Officers include Larry Ayers, president; Hans Haugard, vice-president; Wilma Schleicker, secretary and Roy Beine, treasurer.

From the Livingston County Daily Press and Argus, October 16, 1974

I don't know Larry Ayers, Hans Haugard, Wilma Schleicker or Roy Beine. I see in QRZ.com that there is a Lawrence Ayers living in Summerfield, Florida with the expired call of WB8BHM, but nothing on the other officers mentioned. Does anyone remember these folks?

There are quite a few articles on ham radio in the Daily Press and Argus during the period 1970-1980, and some are quite extensive, and some with photos. Too bad the paper isn't around anymore, perhaps the LARK could get some more terrific copy.

Can anyone recall whether the LARK had ham radio classes this century? And who might have taught them? Perhaps this is something the Klub should reconsider.



Here is another clip from the *Livingston Press and Argus*, from June 16, 1976. Mr. Haugard, Ms. Schleicher and Roy Bain (perhaps a mistaken spelling of the LARK officer named in the previous article) are in the picture. I apologize for the poor quality of the photo, but hey! It's a newspaper photo!

Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Email from Darrell W8DSB re: hotspots

All, the parts are all in for the hotspots. I decided NOT to buy the clear cases. The biggest reason is there is no one that has not had to file, cut and modify each case because it just didn't fit correctly. Some new cases are even missing kit parts. I feel the free metal case is more rugged, easier to build and good enough for our project. You can always buy a different case if you want, but I see no point myself.

There will be NO program at the December (12th) meeting as we will have a quick business meeting then build the hotspots at that time. I am doing the small amount of soldering and the SD card imaging before hand to save time.

Each hotspot will take 15 to 20 minutes to assemble. At that time you can power it on and program the dashboard with your settings.

What do you need to bring:

\$25 cash to cover the remaining parts bought by the club (Total cost to each member \$65)

A laptop or ipad with WIFI if you have one (make sure its charged, we don't have many plugs around the room)

Your home SSID and password (exact spelling and case for both)

Your portable SSID and password (if you have a hotspot or phone with hotspot)

Your DMR ID (If you have one)

Make sure if your buying this for DStar that you have already registered your callsign with the Trust Server (See Les for details)

A small flat and phillips screwdriver

If you have a WIFI hotspot or cell phone with hotspot...bring it so people can test their units. (the more, the more better :)

Your DMR or DStar or Fusion HT

If you can't make the meeting or you want your hotspot built for you, let me know. I will do it for \$20 (the money will go to the club not me).



Santa Nets

by Larry Kube KD8VKW

What better way to introduce youngsters to amateur radio. Santa Nets for many years have introduced a lot of young people to the magic of amateur radio. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, Youngsters can talk to “Santa at The North Pole” via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Again for 2018, Santa Nets are getting set for another season of youngsters wanting to talk to Santa before Christmas.

Remember to adhere to all FCC Rules & Regulations pertaining to 3rd Party Traffic.

ONTARS (Ontario Amateur Radio Service Net) The Santa Claus Net for 2018:

Once again this year, Santa Claus will be join us on the amateur bands to chat with children of all ages. Santa this year is Jim VA3ZW. Santa's helper John Henry VE3CAK. (*Editor's note: I know VA3ZW and he will make a terrific Santa!*)

80 Meters....ONTARS Net frequency 3.755 mhz LSB

December 20th Thursday and December 21st Friday, 2018

Net start time 5 pm till ?

[http://www.ontars.com/Special Events/santa_net_2018/santa.html](http://www.ontars.com/Special%20Events/santa_net_2018/santa.html)

The 3916 Nets: Santa Net 2018:

“For the 13th consecutive year, [The 3916 Nets](#) will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus at the North Pole! It is indeed a magical experience to experience kids talking with Santa via amateur radio, nightly at 7:30 PM (Central) starting Friday, November 23, 2018. The Santa Net will run nightly at 7:30 PM (Central) through Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018. Every year on 3916, we give good little boys and girls a chance to talk to Santa. In our first year, we connected 10 kids to Santa on Ham Radio. For 2018, we’re expecting between 600-700 children

to participate. Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members.

To participate in The Santa Net, just have your kids prepared to tell Santa their top 2-3 gift wishes.

Prenet Check Ins Welcome

Reserve a spot with Santa by making a pre-net check in. Prenet check-ins are welcome each night starting at 7:15 PM central or on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/3916santanet/>

Ho Ho Ho and Merry Christmas from The 3916 Nets!!

<http://www.tailgatersnet.com/santa-net.html>

The 14300 Nets: Santa Net 2018:

Each year a 14300 khz regular puts on what is known as a "Santa Claus Net" bringing volunteer Santas into ham shacks and other places the world over.

Volunteer Santas choose a clear frequency in the general portion of the 20 meter band and let it be known on 14300 khz where they'll be. Folks with youngsters to entertain can then tune in and give their youngsters a chance to talk with Santa over the air. This year's dates will be December 23 and 24, from 1400 to 2000 EST. Check with the Maritime Mobile Service Net on 14.300 MHz for the actual Santa clause operating frequency, 14.325 MHz as first choice, but may be operating between 14.305 MHz and 14.325 MHz.

Sometimes lady ops will play Mrs. Claus to the delight of the children. What a great way to introduce the grandchildren to ham radio when visiting over the holidays. Let them talk to Santa Claus. Explain how radio waves propagate on HF and tune to the twenty meter band to find Santa ready and waiting to hear from the kids.

<http://14300.net/santainfo.htm>

You may also find other Clubs supporting Santa Nets thru the holiday season. What an adventure you can take Grand Kids or children on finding them.

Editor's note: OF9X usually appears at Christmas time from Santa Claus' QTH at the North Pole. Look for this station on the various spotting networks, possibly even with Martti Laine OH2BH at the microphone or key.

Bouvet Island about to be activated?

With the DX crowd all abuzz with the possible DXpedition to Bouvet Island, which might just be on the air with huge pileups just after this edition of The LED goes to press, I thought it would be helpful to remind the DX community of the last activation, in 2000. The following is reprinted, with

permission, from the March 2001 QST, copyright ARRL:

Bouvet Island

The year 2000 was an exciting time in the DX world. We saw activity from six of the top 10 most wanted DXCC Entities (BQ9P, A5, 7O, E3, FR/T, 3Y). The last one being 3Y0C from Bouvet Island, which came as a total surprise just nine days before Christmas 2000. Astronaut Chuck Brady, N4BQW, landed on the island of Bouvet with a group of South African scientists and their Norwegian team leader.

This Norwegian island (54° 26' South 3° 24' East) is located 2574 kilometers (1600 miles) south-southwest of Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, in the South Atlantic Ocean. The island is composed of the remains of an extinct volcano and it measures 6 by 9 kilometers with most of its landmass engulfed in ice. The island was discovered by Jean-Baptiste Lozier Bouvet, a Frenchman, on January 1, 1739. It wasn't until 1823 that the first landing took place by an American expedition. On December 1, 1927 Lars Christensen, a Norwegian, landed an expedition and claimed Bouvet for Norway.

In 1971, a Norwegian royal decree declared the island as a nature reserve. Bouvet's only inhabitants are seals, penguins and other sea birds. Landing on the island can be extremely difficult thanks to steep cliffs and high seas. The only safe area to set up camp is on the west coast of the island.

Bouvet ranked # 8 on the ARRL DXCC Most Wanted list in 1999. Past operations from this rare rock included LH4C (1962), 3Y1VC and 3Y3CC (1977), 3Y1VC and 3Y5DQ (1978-79) and 3Y5X (1990).

This is not the first time that Chuck has operated from such a rare location, as many will remember his operations from Palmyra and Kingman. Chuck is not on a DXpedition to Bouvet, however. He is working on the island as a medical assistant to the scientists. In his spare time, he is on the air as 3Y0C on all bands from 6 to 160 meters, primarily on SSB. Chuck has said that he expects to do some RTTY and may make a few CW contacts. His equipment includes an ICOM IC-756PRO transceiver, an ICOM PW-1 solid-state amplifier and a generator. He has vertical antennas for 40 through 160 meters and will use beams on 10 through 20 meters.

Chuck's most difficult task is keeping the antennas up because the winds at



Here is Chuck, 3Y0C, enjoying one of the few sunny days on Bouvet.



Chuck has a devil of a time keeping this vertical antenna vertical in the 90-MPH winds. Note the clothing he is wearing as well as the operating shack to the right.



This is the 3Y0C operating shack. Chuck logs all QSOs the old fashioned way—with pen and paper. He and the scientists sleep outside in tents.

Bouvet can be severe. He also thought the generator would be usable for 12 hours a day, but after recalculating the fuel consumption rate, he was forced to trim that down to 3-4 hours daily. Suggested SSB frequencies are: 1835, 3795, 7095, 14195, 14260, 18145, 21295, 24945, 28495 and 50120 kHz.

As of press time, the pileups have been growing rapidly. Many times the pileups have developed to the point where Chuck seems inundated and either pulls the plug or moves to another frequency. Cluster spots have contributed to the feeding frenzy. Chuck is scheduled to be on the island until mid-March. Deon, ZR1DQ has set up a very informative Web site about the operation at www.qsl.net/zr1dq/. Send Bouvet QSLs to WA4FFW

Oh, will it actually occur? And will I be a lucky one to get through the dreadfully misbehaving pileups??? Who knows? This DXpedition is proceeding in an unusually secretive manner, and hard information is difficult to come by. The latest information is that the team has gathered in Cape Town, South Africa, for training, and is awaiting departure. At the same time, however, the team has advertised for two additional members who can spare a month of their time. What gives with that? Dom, 3Z9DX, is the DXpedition leader, who also promised us North Korea, but we are still waiting for that one.....

Submitted with much anticipation by Tom KT8Y

ARRL Field Day Results

The South Lyon Area ARC had its Field Day results posted in the **December QST**, under the "4A" category. Recall that the LARK was invited to, and several members did operate from, the South Lyon station. The results were pretty good. South Lyon posted a total of 5,556 points, which was in the top third of stations in that category. The ARROW and UMarc had 9,350 points and are the folks to beat next year. They were the No. 1 Michigan station in category 4A and were No. 6 overall in that category. South Lyon has a very nice location on top of a hill, and next year with a little attention to station interference and computer network issues, I suspect that number can really increase.

Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Livingston County



Emergency Management Department 1911
Tooley Rd.
Howell, MI 48843
(517) 546-6220
<https://www.livgov.com/emergencymanagement>

November 23, 2018

Livingston County CERT assisted Howell Police Department with the 2018 Fantasy of Lights Parade. The following members assisted with crowd and traffic control:

Alward	Katherine	
Andring	Patricia	KD8WPT
Biehl	Jason	W8JMB
Black	Darrell	W8DSB
Black	Stacy	N8NYK
Crane	Tim	WM8A
Fauver	John	KD8WQG
Klein	Jeffrey	KD8UFO
Kube	Cherie	KD8YWA
Kube	Larry	KD8VKW
Pollock	Bruce	N8WWX
Schmid	Donald	
VanEvery	James	N8JVE
VanEvery	Jeanene	N8GNE

Wilson	John	K8TTI
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Starting the deployment all the CERT members obtained and tested their radios before the briefing at staging. After deployment I found that even though I tested the radio and mic before briefing, the combination did not work while walking downtown Howell. Walking the four blocks back to get another radio was a reminder to triple check your equipment before leaving for your assignment.

Darrell and Stacy working the west end of the parade route spent part of their time dodging emergency fire apparatus responding to a structure fire. There is always some excitement during our deployments.

Tim Crane, Region 1 DEC, also assisted with the parade. Tim, who previously led Flint's CRIM Race, found out there is more walking at this event than radio traffic.

Bruce Pollock, PEM, N8WWX, Livingston County EC/RO, CERT Coordinator

This Week on HF-courtesy of DX-World.net

C5, THE GAMBIA Andre, ON7YK is once again active as C5YK until March 9, 2019. Activity from 60 to 10 meter using mostly digital mode. QSL via home call, direct or bureau, LoTW.

ET, ETHIOPIA December is Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) month. The idea is to show the amateur radio hobby to young people and to encourage youngsters to be active on the amateur bands. As part of YOTA month, Bob Johnson, W9XY, and Ken Claerbout, K4ZW will travel to Ethiopia to team up with the club at the Addis Ababa University, Institute of Technology and club station ET3AA. More details will be forthcoming.

FS, SAINT MARTIN Paul FS/K9NU, Marco FS4WBS, John FS/W9ILY, Mike FS/W9MK and John FS/K9EL are operating until December 7. QRV from 160 to 6 meter using CW, SSB and digi. QSL via homecalls, direct or bureau, LoTW and Club Log OQRS. <http://www.k9el.com/SaintMartin2018/SXM2018.htm#Team>

H4, SOLOMON ISL Look for Remo, HB9SHD as H44SHD once again from Uepi until mid-December. Activity on HF using FT8 and SSB. QSL via home call.

HK, COLOMBIA Lothar, DK8LRF is once again active as HK3JCL until March 2019 from Finca Ligia. Operation mostly in his evenings on 20 meter SSB. QSL via home call, direct or bureau.

J6, ST LUCIA Gary, K9AW is now active as J68GD until February 2, 2019. QRV from 160 to 10 meter using CW and SSB. Participation in the CQ WW CW contest.

QSL via K9AW, LoTW. Logs uploaded to Club Log.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA Take, JG8NQJ is back at the weather station until around February 15, 2019. Activity during his spare time on HF using SSB with some RTTY. QSL direct via JA8CJY, bureau via home call.

JD1, OGASAWARA Masa JH1HHC and Hideo JI1CRM are QRV as JD1BPH and JI1CRM/JD1 from Komagari, Chichijima Island. Activity until December 7. Operation from 160 to 6 meter using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8.P

PJ7, ST MAARTEN Tom, AA9A is once again operating as PJ7AA until December 8. Operation from 80 to 10 meter using CW, SSB and digital. QSL via home call.

T32, CHRISTMAS ISL Nobu, JA0JHQ will be QRV as T32NH from Kiribati. Operation between December 5 and December 11. Operation from 160 to 6 meter using CW and FT8. An entry in the ARRL 10m contest is included (Dec 8-9). QSL via home call.

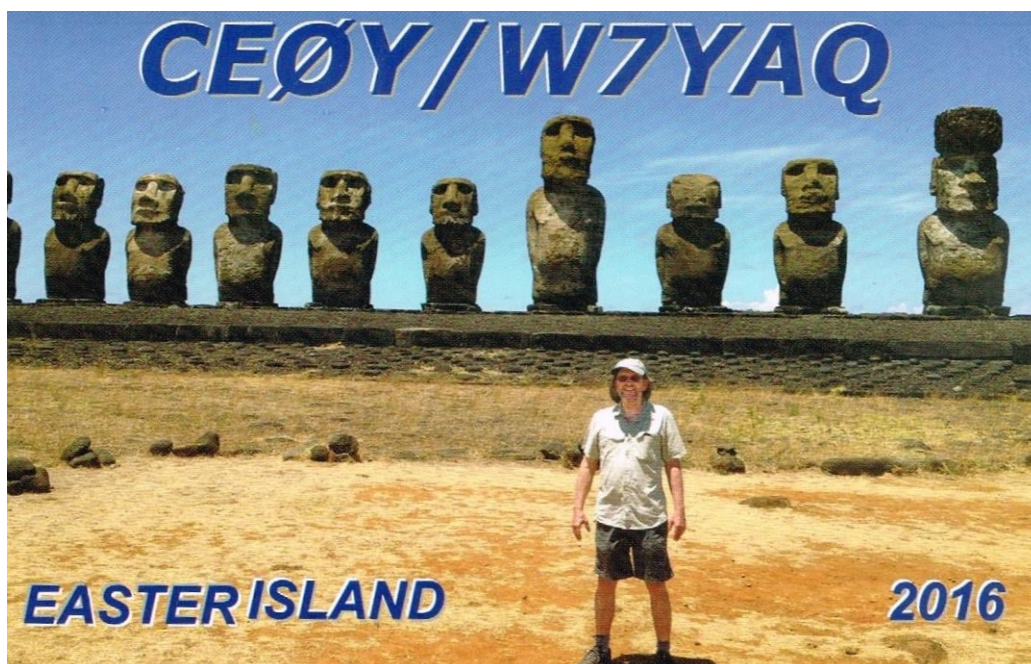
VP8/SH, SOUTH SHETLAND Lee, DS4NMJ is active as DT8A from the King Se-Jong Korean Antarctic Scientific Base. Operation during his spare time until end December 2018. QSL via HL2FDW.

XT, BURKINA FASO Al, F8FUA will be operating as XT2BR from Oaugadougou between December 2 and December 11. Activity on HF using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL via LoTW, home call.

XU, CAMBODIA Steff, HB9FXL is QRV as XU7AKB until December 14. Operation on HF using SSB and FT8 from 40 to 10 meter. QSL via home call, bureau or direct.

Coming up soon 3Y, BOUVET ISL An experienced team with Dom 3Z9DX, Stanislaw SP8S, Branko YU4DX, Tack JE1CKA, Mieczyslaw SP3CMX, Marcin SP5ES, Jose CT1IDV and Tedy (logistics) will be operating from Bouvet during the southern hemisphere's summer, to be announced later. The cruise to Bouvet from South Africa will take 12 days, the intention is to stay 2 weeks on the island. More details soon. <https://bouvetoya.org/>

Now Here is a QSL Card With Snazz



Easter Island is a unique place. In the middle of the Pacific Ocean, 2,100 miles from the west coast of Chile, with dozens of stone *moai* obviously built by a lot of people but with all those people long gone and disappeared. Who were they, where did they come from and where did they go?

Operating from Easter Island is not really all that unusual anymore, there are at least one or two operators each year, it seems. But although not that rare, it would be an interesting place to operate from. And, W7YAQ had a good photo to use for his QSL card.

Submitted by Tom KT8Y

Lark Financials

TCF LARK Emergency Checking

Page 1

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Category	Amount	C	Balance
4/30/2018		Opening Balance		[TCF LARK Emergency Ch...	4,340.79	R	4,340.79
5/29/2018		Bank Charges		Bank Charges	-2.00	R	4,338.79
6/30/2018		Bank Charges	Online Change to Electronic ...	Bank Charges	-2.00	R	4,336.79
7/31/2018		No Changes			0.00	R	4,336.79
8/31/2018		No Changes			0.00	R	4,336.79
9/30/2018		No Changes			0.00	R	4,336.79
10/31/2018		No Changes			0.00	R	4,336.79
11/21/2018		Transfer		[TCF LARK Checking]	-200.00	R	4,136.79

TCF LARK Checking

Page 1

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Category	Amount	C	Balance
4/30/2018		Opening Balance		[TCF LARK Checking]	2,203.78	R	2,203.78
5/6/2018	DEP	Membership	W8CO	Membership	25.00	R	2,228.78
5/8/2018	DEP	50/50	Feb & Apr (No Mar Mtg)	Drawing	86.00	R	2,314.78
5/8/2018	DEP	Membership	N8TMB	Membership	25.00	R	2,339.78
5/15/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8DRA	Membership	24.74	R	2,364.52
5/16/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8LJZ	Membership	24.74	R	2,389.26
5/16/2018	DEP	Membership	N88F	Membership	24.74	R	2,414.00
5/16/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8DCO	Membership	24.74	R	2,438.74
5/16/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8DCP	Membership	24.74	R	2,463.48
5/16/2018	DEP	Membership	K88TX	Membership	24.74	R	2,488.22
5/30/2018	DEP	Membership	N8AQA	Membership	24.99	R	2,513.21
5/30/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8GRD	Membership	24.99	R	2,538.20
5/30/2018	DEP	Membership	K8TCT	Membership	24.99	R	2,563.19
6/10/2018	1338	Stacy Black	File Box	Office Supplies	-10.57	R	2,552.62
6/10/2018	1339	Stacy Black	50/50 Prizes	50-50	-7.36	R	2,545.26
6/15/2018	DEP	50/50	May	Drawing	36.00	R	2,581.26
6/15/2018	DEP	50/50	June	Drawing	18.00	R	2,599.26
6/15/2018	DEP	Donation	Testing	Testing	20.00	R	2,619.26
6/27/2018		Northcomm Technologies Group	New Repeater Upgrades Ord...	Repeater	-171.70	R	2,447.56
6/27/2018		Quality Two-Way Radios	Software & Programming Cable	CERT	-102.19	R	2,345.37
7/5/2018	DEP	Membership	K8A - Dues after 7/1/2018 - ...	Membership	12.81	R	2,358.18
7/5/2018		CAT Web Store	New Repeater Upgrades Ord...	Repeater	-678.48	R	1,679.70
7/8/2018	DEP	Membership	N8NDL - Dues after 7/1/2018 ...	Membership	25.43	R	1,705.13
7/11/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8KGN - Dues after 7/1/201...	Membership	12.81	R	1,717.94
7/11/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8KO - Dues after 7/1/201...	Membership	12.81	R	1,730.75
7/26/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8JGU - Dues after 7/1/2018	Membership	13.50	R	1,744.25
7/26/2018	DEP	Membership	W8QU - Dues after 7/1/2018	Membership	13.50	R	1,757.75
7/26/2018	DEP	50/50	July	50-50	40.50	R	1,798.25
7/27/2018		Bridgecom Systems Inc Smithville		Repeater	-1,510.00	R	288.25
8/27/2018	DEP	Membership	N8KPE - Dues after 7/1/2018 ...	Membership	12.81	R	301.06
8/27/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8JSC - Dues after 7/1/201...	Membership	12.81	R	313.87
9/4/2018	DEP	50/50	August	50-50	18.00	R	331.87
9/22/2018	DEP	BaoFeng UV-5R Dual Band	KE8KNQ	New Ham 18 & Under	-25.54	R	306.33
9/30/2018	DEP	50/50	September	50-50	47.00	R	353.33
9/30/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8KQ - Dues after 7/1/2018	Membership	12.81	R	366.14
10/2/2018	1341	Darrell Black	Death - Post Member N8EJ ...	Flowers	-61.45	R	304.69
10/15/2018	DEP	50/50	September	50-50	36.50	R	341.19
10/16/2018	1340	South Lyon Area Amateur Radio Club	P. O. Box 533 South Lyon, MI...	Field Day	-42.00	R	299.19
10/20/2018		Darrell Black	Death - Aunt of Chief Pless (...)	Flowers	-31.65	R	267.54
10/21/2018	DEP	Membership	KE8KBC - Dues after 7/1/2018	Membership	25.43	R	292.97
10/21/2018	DEP	Membership	N8RDF - Dues after 7/1/2018	Membership	12.81	R	305.78
10/21/2018	DEP	Membership	David Nanna - Dues after 7/1/...	Membership	25.43	R	331.21
11/15/2018	DEP	Kits	15 Kits + 1 Extra Kit	Kits	605.00	R	936.21
11/15/2018		Bank Error	Recognized and Corrected o...		-150.00	R	786.21
11/19/2018		Pay Pal	15 Kits + 1 Extra Kit	Kits	-608.00	R	178.21
11/20/2018	DEP	Kits	15 Kits + 1 Extra Kit	Kits	40.00	R	218.21

Next Klub Meeting

The next Klub meeting will be **Wednesday, December 12, 2018**, at the Livingston County EMS, located at 1911 Tooley Rd, Howell, MI 48855, at 7:30 PM. **This month's meeting will include assembly of the parts for the hotspot for DMR use for those LARK members who signed up. Thanks to Darrell W8DSB for all his efforts. See his email for stuff you need to bring.** Members and friends are welcome. Klub meetings typically are held on the second Wednesday of each month at this location. Informal gathering of the troops occurs sometime around 7:00 PM, for the swapping of lies and insults. Please participate in the 50/50 drawing and prize drawing, which are held at the conclusion of the meeting. Tickets to be purchased from the Klub treasurer as soon as she arrives and sets up. A special mystery person will select the winning tickets.

LARK Two Meter Net

The LARK two meter net is held on **Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM** on the Klub's two meter repeater, 146.68 Mhz (negative offset, 162.2 hz CTCSS).

Michigan ARRL representatives

Dale Williams WA8EFK, Great Lakes Division Director

Thomas Delaney W8WTD, Great Lakes Division Vice Director

Jim Kvochick K8JK, Michigan Section Manager

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub

P.O. Box 283 Howell, Mi 48844

www.W8LRK.org

Klub Call: **W8LRK**

Board Members of the LARK

Darrell Black W8DSB President

Mark Bennett K8ACM Vice President

Stacy Black N8NYK Treasurer
Todd (Dante) Kube KD8WPX Secretary
Reece Albright KB0KSU Director (Member at Large)
Jason Biehl W8JMB Technical Director
Larry Kube KD8VKW Program Director