



NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKELAND FL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Editor/Publisher: George Gafford Sr. KI4NBE March 2007 Vol 30 No 03

Weekly Radio NET		
Thursday Evening	7:30 PM LOCAL TIME	146.685 (PL 127.3)
Net Controller Thursday	March 01 2007	Mike Oliver KI4OFU
Net Controller Thursday	March 08 2007	Carl Johnson N3TJ
Net Controller Thursday	March 15 2007	George Gafford KI4NBE
Net Controller Thursday	March 22 2007	Marvin Johnson KI4CDZ
Net Controller Thursday	March 29 2007	Dan Gagnon WZ1P

LARC Monthly Meetings Come to a meeting!

Meetings & Events are a great way to meet new Ham friends and a great way to see the face behind the voice.

Club Meeting Place	
	Westminster Presbyterian Church 730 S. Florida Avenue Lakeland, FL
When	
"Talk In's" on 146.685	Meetings are held on the First Monday Evening of every month. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM



THE PREZ SEZ

George Mann KJ4UW



On Behalf of the LARC we like to give thanks to Dan Gagnon WZ1P for a Great Presentation on Portable Operations.

Don't miss the April Meeting, LARC will be having a Special Guest Speaker. WTVT Fox 13 Reporter Warren Elly W1GUD.

Also a reminder of the March of Dimes Walk American Saturday April 28th .
The Event starts at 8:00am.
Ernie Haynes KG4YNI will be setting up
A portable station in the parking lot at the walk.
Volunteers for this event are still needed.
If you like to volunteer for this event please contact Pat O'Neil KI4CDY for sign up.

Last Call: Any Members that have not paid their Membership Renewal needs to do so before the deadline MARCH 31st . to still be an Active member of LARC.
Contact Marvin Johnson KI4CDZ for renewals.
Or mail your check to
LARC
P.O. Box 792
Eaton Park, FL 33840

New Members Joined: 2

Gil Lambert KD1IC
Billie Boquiren KW1H



Jeffrey Baxter N4TKB
Grace Clark KI4SGK/xyl
Vikki Gafford KI4OUH
Stephen Perez KD4MBH
Rebecca Pirkle KF4TXO



EVENTS: Kathleen Spring Fest March 10th 2007 Club did a Radio Demo



Radios & Banners



Ernie/KG4YNI, Mike/KI4OFU, Trudy/KI4OFV



Kevin/KI4EFN



Vikki/KI4OUH



George/KI4NBE



Dane, Son of Mike/KI4OFU & Trudy/KI4OFV



Joan/XYL of Ernie/KG4YNI



J-Pole Antenna



**The Lakeland Police Dept.
and
Emergency Operation Center Open House**

March 17th 2007

The Lakeland Amateur Radio Club took part in the the Open House



Is Marvin Johnson (KI4CDZ) thanking Police Chief Roger Boatner for a job well done putting Vikki Gafford (KI4OUH) behind Bars?



**George/KI4NBE Vikki/KI4OUH
Marvin/KI4CDZ**



Vikki/KI4OUH George/KI4NBE



Feature Oinker (Ham) of the Month



George Gafford Sr.

Hi my name is George Gafford Sr., I became an Amateur Radio Operator on 27th December 2005, with the call sign KI4NBE then upgraded to general one minute past midnight (12:01am) on 23rd February 2007 when the FCC dropped code exam.

How did I become a Ham?

Before turning to Ham Radio I was into CB radio from the young age of eight years old.

At that age I had done made up my mind what I wanted to be when I grew up, I wanted to be a Truck Driver.

So I set my mind to that and asked my mom for Christmas of 1971 I like to have a Trucker Radio (CB) and sure enough I got my first radio, a Midland 23 CB.

Boy was I the happiest kid on the block (at least I thought I was).

I ran under my paw paw's cb call sign then (can't remember the call).

After high school I went on to fulfill my childhood dream of becoming a Trucker.

I took a course in Tractor-Trailer Trucks at the USA Training Academy Inc. in Pensacola, FL in 1985.

It wasn't till 1987 that I got my real break in trucking, I was working delivering pizza's for Hungry Howies Inc in Auburndale, FL when the Manager asked me if I'd like to drive for the Hungry Howies Warehouse driving one of their trucks as they were building a new warehouse in Lakeland, FL.

The next morning I went down to apply for the job and was hired on the spot.

I worked for them till 1994 when I couldn't pass the D.O.T. test on hearing.

I then was put on SS.

Ok I took off on that; let me get back on how I became a Ham.

Well being a trucker that I was we all know CB and Trucker go hand in hand, So I put up a CB base station at home.

Over time the CB Radio has gotten way out of hand with bad operators with foul mouths and personal on and off fighting that never stops.

Been told by many that Ham Radio isn't like that and you have to have a license.

I then Started studying for the test and became a Ham, I've enjoyed every minute of talking Ham and now that I'm a General class Ham I can't wait to make my first DX contact on HF.

In February 2006 I believe was when I joined the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club were I have been very Active and busy with the club ever since.

One year after being with the club I have moved up to a board member and the Editor/Publisher of this "Backscatter" newsletter, so you can see where I keep myself busy and it's all good for one being on SS and not working else where.



Married or Single:

Married to a Wonderful lady that is crazy about me.

Most of you have gotten to know her. She is Verna "Vikki" Gafford also a Ham Operator of the call sign KI4OUH and the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club's Secretary.

Children:

I have one son of my own from a previous marriage and 2 stepsons.

Son George Gafford Jr. age 23

Stepson Jon Richards age 28

Stepson Otis Richards age 25 also a Ham Operator KI4SUP

Step Grandson Justin age 6

Step Grandson David age 5

How did you meet your spouse:

Over the CB Radio.

Place of Birth

I was born in Louisville, Kentucky moved to Polk County Fl in 1979 with my mom.

Other Hobbies

Collect Stars (mostly 5 points)

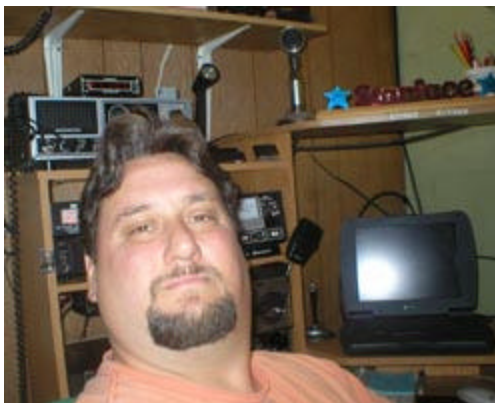
Fishing

NFL Football

Bowling

And just hanging out with Great Friends and making new ones as life goes on.

Me & My Equipment



KI4NBE



HT Icom IC-T2A 2 meter



My Equipment continue



Mobile Radio Kenwood TM-271A 2 meter



Mobile Antenna Wilson 2m 5/8



Base Alinco DR-140 2 meter



Base Antenna Diamond X-50 144/440

Dream Station



**FT DX 9000MP Yeah Right, me with a \$12,000 dollar Ham Radio?
Vikki says Dream on hehe**



Minutes of General Meeting March 5, 2007

Lakeland Amateur Radio Club

Members Present: 23

Guest Present: 5

In Attendance 28

New Member/s Joined: 2

Billie Boquiren KW1IH Gil Lambert KD1IC

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.
by President, George Mann (KJ4UW)

The Secretary Vikki Gafford (KI4OUH) gave her reports of the General Meeting on February 5th.

The Treasurer (Marvin Johnson KI4CDZ) gave his report. Stated the club had \$2457.06 in the checking account. \$766.16 ECT, \$985.00 Education, \$703.62 non-committed and \$87.89 Expenses.

Reports of the Committees:

None

Old Business:

Pat O'Neil (KI4CDY) reminded the club of the March of Dimes Walk that will be held on 28th of April 2007 at 8:00am in Lakeland.

This will be the last Saturday of the month.

Anyone wanting to participate may contact Pat O'Neil (KI4CDY) for information.

New Business:

George Mann Stated about the Open House Being held at the Lakeland Police Dept.

Date is Saturday March 17th 2007 from 10:00am-2:00pm.

The LARC ECT has been asked to give a demonstration.

Also Ernie Haynes KG4YNI volunteered to set up a portable radio demo in the parking lot at the Walk America walk.

Guest Speaker:

George Mann introduced Dan Gagnon WZ1P. Dan gave a demonstration on portable radio set-ups. He described how to use small, easy to operate portable radio and antennas. The demonstration was very informative. Dan answered many questions and everyone enjoyed the presentation.

George Mann stated that for the month of April, The Guest Speaker would be by WTVT Fox 13 and Tampa Amateur Radio Club's Warren Elly W1GUD.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm

Respectfully submitted:

Vikki Gafford KI4OUH LARC Secretary



LARC Staff and Contact Information

LARC Officers

Elected officials voted in by club members to
serve a one year term of office.

Position	Contact	Callsign
President	George Mann	KJ4UW
Vice President	Carl Johnson	N3TJ
Secretary	Vikki Gafford	KI4OUH
Treasurer	Marvin Johnson	KI4CDZ
Board of Director	Kevin Smith	KI4EFN
Board of Director	Michael Oliver	KI4OFU
Board of Director	Phil Dentler	K4BHE
Board of Director	George Gafford Sr.	KI4NBE
Board of Director	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX

Committee Members

Club volunteers who make our club the best around. They work countless hours
in order to keep the club operating and growing.

Committee	Contact	Call sign
Education	OPEN	
Events	Patrick O'Neil	KI4CDY
ECT Coordinator	Wayne Miles	N4JEP
Field Day 2007	OPEN	
Hospitality	George Gafford Sr.	KI4NBE
Membership	OPEN	
Radio Nets	Kevin Smith	KI4EFN
Webmaster	Carl Johnson	N3TJ
Programs	Ernie Haynes	KG4YNI
Publicity	George Mann	KJ4UW
Fund Raising	OPEN	
Repeater Trustee	Richard Sharp	KQ4KX
Sympathy	Bert Onachila	KG2G



Contact us here.

Lakeland Amateur Radio Club

Home of the K4LKL Repeater 146.685 MHz

Club Mailing Address
LARC P.O. Box 792 Eaton Park, FL 33840
Florida Non-Profit Corporation

(Backscatter is the monthly Newsletter of the Lakeland Amateur Radio Club)

Editor: George Gafford Sr. – KI4NBE – ki4nbe@yahoo.com

Home: (863)-967-1546

Cell: (863)-269-7891

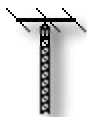
Have an Interesting Ham Story you would like to share with others?

Would you care to share your Ham Shack Photo's with other Ham's and become

our **Feature Oinker (Ham) of the Month?**

Have it Publish here in the Backscatter Newsletter.

Just contact the Editor via email at the above addy with your story.



73

Till Next Month



The Editor: de George Gafford Sr. – KI4NBE

