



The Long Wire

November 2007



PUBLISHED BY THE LIVERPOOL AMATEUR REPEATER CLUB

*Please notice the **Christmas Party** form in this issue!*

Bob Dumas, W2KLI, Silent Key

Robert R. Dumas Jr.



October 20, 2007 Robert R. Dumas Jr., also known to his friends as Charlie Bob, died unexpectedly at home

October 20, 2007, at the age of 59. A native of Syracuse,

NY, who served his country with honor as a commemorated Vietnam veteran. A collector of radio equipment of that era and an avid amateur radio operator with a call of W2KLI. He was a dedicated and tireless worker, a loving husband and a father, and a loyal friend to many that knew him, always lending a helping hand in wisdom and deed. His presence will be greatly missed by the whole community. Robert R. Dumas Jr. is survived by his loving wife of 20 years, Nancy M. Dumas; his son, Robert R. Dumas III of Virginia. Other survivors include his father, Robert R. Dumas Sr., and sister, Debra A. Williams, both of Syracuse. Calling Hours: Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m. at DeWitt Memorial Funeral Home, 4901 Jamesville Rd., Jamesville. Funeral Service: 9 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Burial to follow at Onondaga County Veterans Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family. Jan Maloff, Funeral Director DEWITT MEMORIAL

FUNERAL HOME We never take advantage of your disadvantage.

Published in the Syracuse Post Standard on 10/23/2007.

Bob was a regular on the repeater- always friendly, always in good humor, and always tolerant of others. He was truly one of the good guys.

Pumpkin Patrol 2007- Job Well Done

Excellent Bob Hamby, W2WRH

On October 30-31, LARC sponsored the Pumpkin Patrol again. It was up both nights for a little over 4 hours each night. The weather was great, which usually bodes for some mischief- but we had a couple of great nights. Temps were good and the action was pretty dead. There were no incidents on our bridges, although there were some incidents off of the Thruway. Our bridge heroes were alert and made all the right calls; local law enforcement agencies took care of everything and none of our bridge watchers were involved in any incidents where the bad guys were involved. Our bridge watchers did a great job again this year and should be commended for it. All of them (myself included) would like to thank the club, the repeater trustee, and the officers of LARC for their backing and for the use of the clubs repeaters.

Those involved in this year's Pumpkin Patrol include:

J.J. Phillips, KC2FEV
Mike Solinsky, KC2INP
Jan Just, W2JST
Jeff Church, KC2OKX
Bob Jackson, WB2BJW
Linda Jackson, KC2CZH
Ed Taggart, N2WKW
Jim Otis, N2MGU
Dan Tokarz, N2KQL
John Kushneir, K2JFK
Samuel Coffey, KC2IQM
Tom Delasin, WA2DAD
Chris Riccardi, KC2QHC
Keith Conroy, WB2NVY
Dave Packard, K1YHR
John Luebs, N2PMQ
Doug Dunlap, KC2MJB
Tim Colson, N2VZD
Rita Colson, KC2GFT
Benjamin Townsend, KC2PNN
Mark Chamberlain, WB2PKO
Sarah Ingerson, KC2PNE
William Goodwin, KC2QJI
John Oldfield, KC2CRC
Jayson Fellows, KC2OSX
Len Redhead, KC2NBJ
Rick Whitford, KC2USA
David Walker, WA2ICI
David Bender, KC2GIX
Robert Hamby, W2WRH
Kevin Shannon, WA2ISC
Roger Hamilton, WA2AEW
Patrick T. Browns, WN8Z

Excellent Job!

November Club Program-
Tour of the Onondaga Hill 911center,
one week early on the 15th at 7:00pm

Congratulations Adam Bronstein (K2AMB)

Art Bronstein, W2YPP

Many of our members know my son Adam (K2AMB). He was responsible for putting up the local digipeater and providing an "I Gate" at our house for a while. I assume the digipeater is still in operation.

Adam was married on September 8 of this year to a wonderful girl who graduated with Adam from ESF. They are now residing in Sutton New Hampshire. Adam does GIS work for "The Society For The Protection of New Hampshire Forests". So far, so good.

C'mon Riley- Make up Your Mind!

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

Dave Moon (N2RGU) and Walt Bordett (N1IK) both forwarded news of FCC Special Council Riley Hollingsworth's retirement, then change of heart (he's staying on for a while after all). Hollingsworth (K4ZDH) has been a true asset to keeping radio "on the straight and narrow" while dealing appropriately with those who would run afoul of the law (and good taste, in many cases). I for one am glad he's staying for a while.

From the ARRL (thanks Walt):

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB024
ARLB024 Hollingsworth to Stay
Put at FCC

ZCZC AG24
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 24 ARLB024
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT October 30, 2007
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB024
ARLB024 Hollingsworth to Stay
Put at FCC

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel for the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, has decided not to retire. He had announced last week that he would leave the FCC in January 2008.

Riley states, "After spending the entire weekend thinking about the decision [to retire], it became more and more clear to me that it just isn't the right decision for me right now. There are several issues on the table that I want to continue to work through with the amateur community."

The Enforcement Bureau is the primary organizational unit within the Federal Communications Commission that is responsible for enforcement of provisions of the Communications Act, the Commission's rules, Commission orders and terms and conditions of station authorizations, as well as enforcement of Amateur Radio rules (Part 97).

Confessions of a Longwave Addict

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

Since April of this year, I have found myself consumed with chasing NDBs- non-directional navigation beacons. I know there are others in the LARC group who suffer from the same addiction, and I encourage others to get hooked. NDB hunting is challenging but not brutal, and on any given night the catches can be astounding- even on simple gear.

I have found my NDB "big gun" in my Yaesu FT-840 HF rig, using it as a

receiver to nab NDBs off of a few hundred feet of junk wire in the backyard, down below 525 KHz. But I've also had great luck with nothing but the built-in AM ferrite antenna on my portable shortwaves- Grundig's G5 and YB 400 PE receivers. These are nice enough radios, but certainly not "top end" in either price or quality. But on the right night in the backyard, at camp, or in a hotel room when travelling, these lightweights have pulled dozens of NDBs out of the noise. From the 19th floor of the Minneapolis Hilton in the middle of the noisy city, I found 13 NDBs a few weeks ago in the evening and nighttime hours. My current log can be found at

<http://web.syr.edu/~lhadman/ndb.html>

Give it a try- is an easy (and captivating) addition to the radio hobby.

Minutes of the October 25, 2007 Meeting of the Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club

Carrie Williams-KC2OPF

The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by John Rockdashil-WB2DVE. Present were: KC2OPF, N2IK, KC2PAM, W2TQF, N2VZD, KC2GFT, N2MRE, N2TKX, N2JOM, KC2IQM, KC2SAB, KC2BHE, WA2DGC, KE2FV, N2RGU, K2JDD, WB2DVE, KB2VSJ, N2KQL, W2RDC, KC2ALF, WB2PKO, KC2CZH, WB2BJW, N2MGU, AB2MS, and K2BMI.

Old Business: **Secretary –**

The minutes of the September 27, 2007 General Membership Meeting as recorded by KC2OPF and published in the October LongWire were approved on a motion by N2IK, seconded by

WA2DGC.

Treasurer –

Recent deposits to the checking account included \$280.00 in raffle ticket sales, a \$150.00 transfer from the repeater fund, and \$108.00 of dues and donations. Our only expense was \$59.81 for the October LongWire, bringing the checking account balance to \$843.22 on October 25, 2007. Bear in mind, however, that \$360.00 in this account is from raffle ticket sales for the repeater fund and to purchase the prize, so the checking account balance is really \$483.22, just enough to pay for the LongWire for the rest of the year.

The repeater fund gained \$2.69 in interest over the last five months, and \$150.00 was transferred to the checking account, bringing the balance to \$859.21 on October 25, 2007.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a motion by N2TKX, seconded by N2VZD.

Membership –

There are a few members left who have not renewed their dues. Members were encouraged to remind them to send them in.

A new membership form is being worked on for the web site; in the meantime, please use the existing form on the site, or see KC2IQM for a hardcopy of the new form.

There are Halloween cupcakes for refreshments tonight!

Repeaters –

All are working properly, with the exception of the 224.12, which needs only to be installed at a new location.

Raffle –

72 tickets have been sold as of October 1st. WB2DVE thanked KC2IQM and others who manned a table at the Elmira Hamfest to sell tickets.

New Business:

Upcoming Programs –

November – Tour of the Onondaga Hill 911 center, one week early in the 15th at 7:00pm.

Directions to follow in the November LongWire. December – Christmas Party at Twin Trees Too in Solvay, Saturday, December 15th. Information was included in the October LongWire, and a form will follow in November.

January – Annual Equipment Auction

The Skyline Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the ARRL Phone (SSB) Sweepstakes from the MoST from 4:00pm Saturday, November 17th – 4:00pm Sunday, November 18th. The MoST is offering free admission to any licensed amateur wishing to attend anytime during the contest. This is a good opportunity to check out the new layout of the MoST's amateur radio station, including a swap in the positions of the EchoLink/IRLP station and the HF station.

As always, the club welcomes ideas for future meetings.

Antique Fire Apparatus Society Parade –

The Antique Fire Apparatus Society will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a convention and parade in Syracuse July 30th – August 3rd, 2008. Radio operators will be needed along the parade route from the Holiday Inn through Longbranch Park. Information will be distributed at a meeting at 1:00pm Sunday, November 4th at Station 4 on Wolf Street. N2KQL asked that a LARC board member attend the meeting.

JOTA Report –

The Chef's Camporee in Pratt's Falls was attended by LARC members N2MRE, WA2DGC, and KC2NKJ, Eagle Scout KC2NSC, and AK2K and K1DLT from Syracuse Repeater Association-W2SYR, who manned a 20M station. Members of the Fulton Amateur Radio Club-W2CXV manned a 40M station. They only experienced one rainstorm, and made a lot of contacts, including several to the Toledo Mobile Radio Association-W8HHF.

Program –

N2TKX and N2MRE presented a program on the

telemetry obtained from the launch of the MoST's rocket at the Geneseo Airport model rocket launch last July 28th. After illustrating details of the GPS system, N2TKX told how the rocket launch got its start.

The MoST distributes smaller rocket kits to schools in the spring during its Rocket Challenge, and holds a launch at Skytop on the SU campus in June. The school coming closest to predicting their rocket's altitude wins the contest. The program has been so successful that the museum wanted to take it further, so they obtained a grant from Lockheed Martin Corporation to build a Nike Smoke rocket, which is a scaled-down version of an atmospheric sounding rocket used by NASA in the 1960's. They teamed with the Syracuse Rocket Club and inner city youth to build this 3-section rocket that goes about 1 mile up and needs a special permit to be launched! It was the largest rocket launched that day, using an "N" class solid fuel engine.

The rocket uses a telemetry package from AED Electronics that costs around \$1,000. It uses the GPS system to sense apogee and pop the two main sections apart, and to sense a drop to 2,000 to 1,000 feet, when the nose cone pops off and parachutes are released to slow the landing.

In addition to this equipment, N2TKX and N2MRE looked into different telemetry packages and obtained a transmitter from BigRedBee for \$300 that operates in the 70cm band, and a Trimble's Lassen IQ GPS unit for \$50. The details of these systems were illustrated, and N2TKX showed how the data obtained can be used by a laptop computer running HyperTerminal software, a TNC, and a UHF transceiver to feed details into the Google Earth program and map the rocket's path.

Videos of the rocket launch were shown, along with some still photos taken by KC2OPF. The real thrill, however, was seeing the rocket (in two parts!) that N2MRE had brought from the museum.

The November Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 15th, at 7:00pm at the 911 center in Onondaga Hill.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Amateur Radio Classes Return to the MoST in January

Steve Auyer, N2TKQ, passes on that the very successful Amateur Radio classes that have become a veritable institution unto themselves will again run at the MoST. Every Saturday in January of 2008, from 11 AM- 1 PM, students will benefit from Steve's recognized teaching abilities- and hopefully LARC might gain a few members as a result.

Watch for details in a coming issue of the Post-Standard's Stars column, and a flyer will also be sent to the LongWire mailing list. Please print, copy, and distribute and let's get Steve's enrollment numbers up!

It's a Changing World- Ham Radio Videos on YouTube

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

What'll they think of next? It's old news by now that there are videos of every kind plastered all over the Internet. Amateur radio is not left out- visit YouTube (www.youtube.com) and search on almost anything radio related that you can think of. Try "ham radio", "radio repair", "FT-817", "PSK-31", or whatever strikes your fancy. You'll find video of contest operations, DXpeditions, strange folks singing about radios from towers as if they were on the Grand Ole Opry, and more. Some of these are production quality with excellent information in them, some are entertaining, and some make the case for the fabled Darwin Awards... Take a look for yourselves- it's pretty amazing the range of content that you'll find.

LARC Christmas Party

Saturday, December 15th, 2007
Twin Trees Too, Milton Avenue, Solvay

\$15/member—payment by December 4th
\$20/member—payment after December 4th
\$20/person—non-members & spouses

Fabulous Door Prizes

Gather at 4:00pm, buffet served at 5:00pm:

Baked Ziti & Meatballs
Chicken & Roast Potatoes
Pizza
Chef Salad
Relishes
Coffee
Dessert

Fill out coupon and return, with payment,

no later than December 4th!

Mail To: Walt Bordett N2IK
1200 Meadowbrook Drive
Syracuse, NY 13224

Please reserve _____ seats at the LARC Christmas Party for me. Payment of \$ _____ is enclosed. (\$15/member by 12/2, \$20.00/person for non-members, spouses and members after 12/2, please make checks payable to "LARC").

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW DX SSB Contest • 2400Z—ARRL International EME Contest ends • Long Island Mobile ARC Hamfest, Hicksville (K2KNB) 	29	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pumpkin Patrol (W2WRH) • 7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona (last) 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halloween • Pumpkin Patrol (W2WRH) • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Camilus VE Session (KB2ERJ) (1st) 	2	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARRL November CW Sweepstakes
4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daylight Savings Time Ends • ARRL November CW Sweepstakes 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) (1st) 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election Day • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Rome Radio Club Meeting, Griffiss (1st) • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—RAGS Meeting (W2BCH) (2nd) 	9	10
11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran's Day 	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Central District Emergency Net, 147.00R, (N2BK) (2nd) • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—Skyline ARC Meeting, Cortland (KC2BQZ) (2nd) • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—LARC Meeting, Tour of 911 Center 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—MOARC VE Session (KG2DI) (3rd) 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leonids Meteor Shower • ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes • 4:00pm—Skyline ARC Sweepstakes operation at the MoST begins
18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:00pm—Skyline ARC Sweepstakes operation at the MoST ends 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) (3rd) 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving 	23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW DX CW Contest
25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW DX CW Contest 	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona (last) • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30pm—Fulton ARC VE Session (KC2PAM) • 7:00pm—Fulton ARC Meeting (W2TGF) (4th) • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 	29	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic Hurricane Season Ends • ARRL 160 Meter Contest • 11:30am—QCWA Luncheon, Weber's restaurant (WB2PEM) (last) 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARRL 160 Meter Contest

The LongWire November 2007

Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club
Web Page: www.LiverpoolAmateurRepeaterClub.org
Club Call: W2CM

Club Officers and Directors

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2nd Vice President Sam Coffey-KC2IQM, 673-1828
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Material may be submitted electronically to any of the club officers through the club web site. Articles may be on any subject of general interest to radio amateurs. The deadline is generally about the end of the month. This allows us to meet our goals of having the electronic edition to members by the end of the first week of the month with the hard copy edition following within a week.

The December deadline is November 30.

THE LONGWIRE - November 2007
Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club
PO BOX 5623
SYRACUSE, NY 13220-5623

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