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Going QRT with a bang! KA6LMS Special event.

If you're a fan of Tim Allen's TV series Last Man Standing, you'll have a final chance to contact the show's Amateur Radio Club station before it goes QRT.

The weeklong KA6LMS radio special event starts on March 24 at 00:00 UTC and runs through 23:59 UTC on March 30, which is the show's final day of shooting.

This will be an all-mode, all-band event. Fans will have the opportunity to work the bonus 1-by-1 stations; K6L, K6M, K6S, W6L, W6M and W6S. Stations from every call sign area will operate as KA6LMS/0 through KA6LMS/9, providing nationwide coverage. The remote operators are a virtual "who's-who" of ham celebrities, testers and podcasters.

Many will livestream their operations. Check spotting sites like DXSummit for pop-up operations on any day and at any time during the event week. We expect the "on-stage" radios to be in operation from the studio in California on Saturday, March 27th at 18:00 UTC using 20 Meters and on Sunday at 22:00 UTC using 40 Meters. Remote stations will act as relays to give everyone an opportunity to make contact with the stage.

If you're a fan of digital modes, Saturday, March 27th is your day. At 17:00 UTC - KA6LMS will be using D-STAR on reflector 12 Alpha, hosted by the PAPA Repeater System. At 19:00 UTC - The D-STAR action moves to reflector 30 Bravo, hosted by Georgia D-STAR.

At 23:00 UTC - Amateur Logic.TV will host the KA6LMS Multi Mode QSO PARTY Using: Allstar, DMR via Brandmeister, D-Star, NXDN, P25, Echolink, Hamshack Hotline, Wires-X and Yaesu System Fusion.

A livestream of this activation will be available at: <http://live.amateurlogic.tv> Going QRT with a bang! KA6LMS QSL cards will be available for stations who contact the stage directly or through relay stations. Special event certificates including "Clean Sweep" endorsements will be available via download.

The KA6LMS radio event is sponsored by the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club's 12 Days of Christmas and K2Her0s teams, in association with [Amateur Logic.TV](http://AmateurLogic.TV), The PAPA Repeater System and Georgia D-STAR

For more information go to www.gsbarc.org/lms

● Thanks to **Ian, G3ZHI** for the above information



PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Happy Spring everyone !

- ⇒ Some upcoming Club events to mark on your calendar are the Picnic on June 12th at the #2 Stone Shelter at Rowe Park in Onalaska. It will be a bring your own meal event same as last year. The Club will be hosting Field Day this summer as well. Also we have the Onalaska Legion reserved for the Swapfest on August 7th. More info to come on these events.
- ⇒ Remember that the RARC Club e-mail “reflector” is out there for all Club members to post an announcement, information, or question related to Ham radio. The address is members@rarc.qth.com.
- ⇒ Also remember the Saturday morning “ragchew” on the 146.970 repeater at 8:00 AM.
- ⇒ Our April program night meeting will be on the 6th at 7:00 PM. Our presenter this month is Scott Cross, KB3MKD. His topic will be Raspberry PI and Arduino. A reminder email with the meeting link will be forwarded a day or so before the meeting, and can also be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- ⇒ Also a reminder if you have any submissions for the Club Newsletter, The Key, please send them to our editor, Kelley Becker at kelleyl23@hotmail.com.
- ⇒ Also for your on-line purchases, please remember to try smile.amazon.com and designate 0.5% of your purchase to be donated to your favorite charitable organization, the RARC ! There is no cost to you and you get the same products, prices, and services as regular Amazon.

Feel free to contact me with any other comments or suggestions at rckolter@gmail.com.

73 for now,

Rick KD9GVS



Thoughts on a QST review...

I have to confess up front that I don't often read QST magazine very deeply, but this month's issue (April 2021) is the exception that proves the rule. There are a number of articles that are worth the time and effort to read.

Way before I got directly involved in Amateur Radio as a licensed Ham, I was an avid DX Short Wave Listener. For more years than I care to admit to I carried with me a small Short Wave receiver in my bag as I worked on the Burlington Northern Railroad. When you ride in the cab of a diesel electric locomotive, you reside in a EMF/RF atmosphere that makes broad cast radio nearly impossible to hear. That is AM and FM radio, but I found that it had little affect on Short Wave signals, so when I would be dead heading from one point to another, I would pass the time listening to Short Wave broad casts form the BBC, Radio Nederland, or Radio Deutsche Welle, to name a few. This kept me involved with what was happening in the world outside of my own country. I found it all so fascinating, especially when you compared the international news broad casts by such divers sources. Each had its own spin on world events.

A good example of what I mean is the reporting of the Falkland Islands War. If you listened to US broadcasts, there was little substance to the reporting of it. The BBC had another view of events, mostly in favor of their governments efforts in that conflict. Tuning in an Argentinian radio station was as conflicting as the war itself. To get a less biased and more complete idea of what was happening, I tuned in Radio Australia. They seemed to be more complete in their reporting with less bias of any kind.

Since I got involved with Amateur Radio, I sort of lost interest in Commercial Short Wave DXing. That is until I ran across a new Short Wave radio receiver. I'm referring to the Eton Elite 750, it seemed to have it all and a healthy price tag too. At \$450.00 it was a bit pricey but it had so many attractive features and is so well built and sturdy that I decided to get one. Once it arrived and I set it up, and I have never looked back. It does have nearly every well thought out feature that a high end radio receiver should have. Although designed for the consumer market it does very well for All sorts of DX listening.

It is featured in a fairly thorough review of it in the April 2021 issue of QST. The depth of the descriptions pro and con about this radio is insightful and well written. If you have an interest in Short Wave, Medium Wave, and Broadcast radio with a good helping of Amateur Radio both SSB and CW, I can highly recommend it. Over the years I have had and used many different multi band radios including a Panasonic RF 1150 Tech 1000, a Radio Shack DX440 and several other smaller format multi band receivers. I don't say that I am an expert on the subject, but I have messed around with a lot of receivers over many years and I must admit that this Eton Elite 750 is the best that I've found so far.

73 de Carl KC9HDS 

Battery Power...

With all kinds of time on my hands and lots of stuff in my junk box, I've been working on setting up a battery powered system to power my rigs. I got started with this project when I thought to myself that there is a lot of power in a 40V Ryobi Lithium Battery pack that is normally used on battery powered yard equipment. But how to get it down to the 12V DC needed for my rigs?

My first set up utilizes a Ryobi Battery Pack in a Ryobi Inverter. Added to that I attached my Switching Power Supply to the 120V AC port, then I attached the Power Supply to my rig. Thus I was able to convert the 40V DC to 120V AC with the inverter, which my switching power supply can then convert it to 12V DC, thus powering my rig in my shack. This works very well, but I got to thinking some more about it and thought that there must be a simpler way to do this. After all, this works fine for the rig in my shack, but what can I do to use a similar system in a Go Box?

Some how I needed to find a way to reduce the 40V DC to 12VDC in one step. After some research, I found that there is a DC to DC Converter that should work. It is referred to as a "Buck" converter. It can handle up to 48Volts DC in and convert it to 12Volts DC out at up to 10 Amps. This sounded ideal for my purposes. I looked on the internet and found what I needed for about \$20.00. I got the buck converter and started to experiment with various configurations to make it more portable and easy to use.

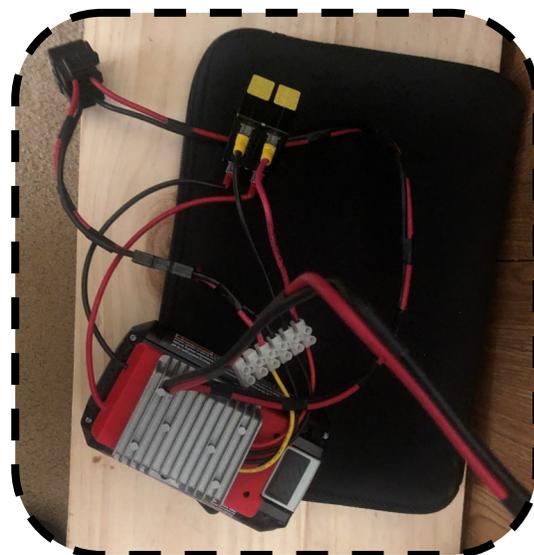


Ideally it should have a double pole single throw switch as a cut off to save on the battery when not in use. It should also have fuses to protect the circuit should there be an over load. As I imagined this gadget some more, I thought that it should have

an indicator light to show that power is being out putted from the DC Converter. Next I thought that it would be nice if it also had a DC Volt Meter and a DC Ammeter to further show that things are as they should be. Then it needs to be in a nice compact water proof box so that it can be used outside anywhere.

Alas, I have yet to get it all together, but I do have it set ups so that it does have a Double Pole Switch and it does run my rig flawlessly. Next I need to dig in my junk box some more for the meters and fuse holders needed to make this a truly versatile and useable portable power supply. I've got several possible box to house it in and all of the rest of the accessories that I mentioned. My next step is to put it all together a try it out in the field.

Meanwhile I'm including a couple of pictures of what set up #1 and set up #2 look like so far. More when I get it all together.



73 de Carl KC9HDS



RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Monday, March 15, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM via Zoom after a few minutes of adjustments to the system. Ham Prayer was recited.

Members Present; KD9GVS Rick, KB9EWG Dave, KD9OHQ Ron, KD9KGG Shawn, W9DXE Steve, KD9LQW Kelley, KC9HDS Carl, AB9TS Dan



Approval of March 2021 minutes: Minutes were approved for February Meeting with no changes.

Treasurer's Report: Drew was not available tonight, the treasurer's report is available on Dropbox.

Officer's Reports: None.

Old Business:

Newsletter Articles – for The Key should be sent to Kelley by the 26th of the month to make it into the newsletter.

Status of “suggestion box” idea – Google forms survey has been sent out to the membership, the results of the survey has been compiled into a spread sheet and will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting. We would like to thank all those who submitted comments and if anyone wants to submit comments please do so.

KDCHDS Carl has contacted the City of Onalaska for the club picnic, the #2 Stone Shelter house has been reserved for June 12th at 11:00 am to? The Onalaska Legion has been contacted to reserve the room for the 2021 Swapfest on Saturday August 7th, there are several area's that could be used to make it easier to spread out for social distancing, outdoors, pole shed etc., options to be discussed at the event time nears. Discussion about the flyer to be created. More work will be done on that topic.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade event was a great success, with 12 Club members volunteering to provide traffic control at intersections along the 8-block long parade route on Main Street. There was approximately 32 parade units. It was a nice weather day, and the parade was well attended.

Committee Reports

Repeater issues not a lot of discussion repeater seems to be working as expected.

New Business:

Scott Cross has presented an idea for a Club activity to promote repeater use, he would like to suggest an informal “contest” for an award certificate for confirmed contacts with 20 (?) other club members via radio using HF, 2m/440 repeaters, or simplex. Also, could work mobile around county to help assess radio propagation. This idea was discussed and will be sent back to Scott to flesh out the rules or guidelines on how to implement and manage the event.

Discussion about a possible new venue for Field Day – Champions Riverside Resort Campground located along the La Crosse /Trempealeau County Black River border is open to the idea of having hams set up and operate for the June Field Day event. A group will make a site visit to discuss the

idea with the Campground in April and make a determination if that is something the club wants to pursue

Membership cards were discussed and will be provided to paid members as soon as possible.

Two other events were brought up in discussion, Onalaska Community Days and the MS walk to see if they were going to happen in 2021. It will be investigated if they are planned to go on. A preliminary check online indicated the MS walk would not be occurring in the same manner as the past and would not be needing club members to support the event. The Community Days is a possible event to be determined.

Motion to Adjourn @ 7:58

* *Anyone who is a member of the Club are welcome to attend the RARC Board meetings.*

UPCOMING Events for April 2021

RARC Sunday Night 2Meter Net is held on the 146.970 repeater at 8:00 PM. Net control operators for December are:

April 4, 2021	Mark kb9ofk
April 11, 2021	Carl kc9hds
April 18, 2021	Rick kd9gvs
April 25, 2021	David kd9epn

- ◆ Saturday morning Ragchew, weekly on the 146.970 repeater, 8:00-9:00 AM
- ◆ April 6...Program Night, Time: 07:00 PM, <https://zoom.us/j/99796168272>
- ◆ April 19...Trustee Meeting, Time: 06:30 PM, <https://zoom.us/j/99796168272>

Starting Next Month: 'OPEN MIC'

The Key will have a section in the newsletter featuring local Ham equipment for sale or in-search-of (ISO) classified advertisements.

You can submit For Sale or ISO ads by submitting details and contact information by the 26th of each month to kellyl123@hotmail.com

CLUB INFORMATION



Riverland Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 621

Onalaska, WI 54650

- * The Key is published monthly and e-mailed to members and friends of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club by the 28th of each month.
The newsletter focuses on news, announcements and activities of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club. It may also consist of news and information of interest to the Amateur Radio community as a whole. Guest editorials and articles related to Amateur Radio are welcome. Contribution articles should be submitted NLT the 26th of the month.
Address any correspondence or anything that should be included in the newsletter to: Kelley Becker at KelleyLL23@hotmail.com.
- * The Riverland Amateur Radio Club maintains a website at rarc.qth.com. More information about the club can be found there as well as past copies of The Key.
- * RARC also maintains a Facebook page where members add information and share their Amateur Radio adventures. Please friend us at Riverland Amateur Radio Club—RARC.
- * RARC maintains a repeater that is located on the WXOW television tower above La Crescent, MN. 146.970 pl 131.8.
- * RARC holds a weekly 2meter net on Sundays at 8:00 PM on the 146.970 repeater.
- * Trustee Meeting is held the 3rd Monday of the month at Perkins Restaurant, 9428 State Road 16, Onalaska, WI 54650 at 5:30 PM, all club members are welcome.
- * Program evening is held the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, elmer session at 6:30 PM at 401 West Avenue in La Crosse.
- * Weekly "Breakfast Club" Ragchew on the 146.970 repeater on Saturday's from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM. Stop by to say "hi".

Below are listed your RARC 2021 Board of Trustees and contact information.

President.....Rick Kolter, KD9GVS Email...rckolter@gmail.com

Vice-President.....David Peters, KB9EWG Email...kb9ewg@gmail.com

Secretary.....Ron Severson, KD9OHQ Email...ronaldhseverson54@gmail.com

Treasurer.....Drew Neve, AB9NE Email...ab9ne@yahoo.com

Trustee.....Carl Thurston, KC9HDS Email...kc9hds@gmail.com

Trustee.....Steve Becker, W9DXE Email...sbecker54656@yahoo.com

Repeater Trustee.....Shawn Hicks, KD9KGQ Email...eistim68@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor.....Kelley Becker, KD9LQW Email...kellyLL23@hotmail.com