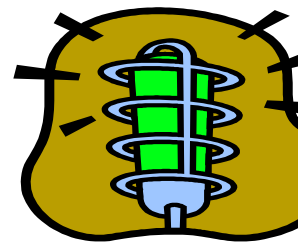




# THE LED

Published by The Livingston Amateur Radio Klub  
Howell, Michigan



## JUNE 2004

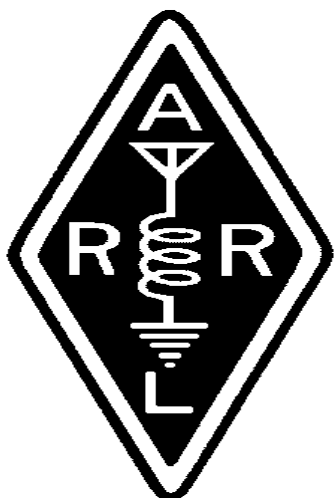
Livingston Amateur  
Radio Klub  
PO Box 283  
Howell, Michigan  
48844

[www.qsl.net/milark](http://www.qsl.net/milark)

NET 146.680  
SUNDAY 9PM

CLUB CALL IS: KB8ZTV

NEXT KLUB MEETING  
June 10th, 2004 7:30 P.M.  
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
300 SOUTH HIGHLANDER WAY



### BOARD MEMBERS

|                  |         |        |
|------------------|---------|--------|
| President        | Art     | KC8WAZ |
| Vice-President   | Bruce   | N8GVD  |
| Secretary        | Mary    | KC8SER |
| Treasurer        | Clairus | KC8QQN |
| Program Director | Bob     | K8VQC  |
| Program Director | Jim     | WB8AZP |
| Tech Coordinator | Jim     | WB8AZP |
| Board Member     | Chuck   | W8CLK  |

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

|                  |      |        |
|------------------|------|--------|
| 146.680 Repeater | Jack | KA8BOG |
| LED Editor       | Jim  | WB8AZP |
| VE Coordinator   | Greg | AA5GO  |

### SOCIAL EVENTS

5 Jun 2004 Independent Repeater Association  
<http://www.w8hvg.org> Contact: Kathy Werkema, KB8KZH 562  
92nd Street SE Byron Center, MI 49315 Phone: 616-698-6627  
Email: kwerkema@juno.com

6 Jun 2004 Chelsea ARC <http://www.qsl.net/wd8iel>  
Contact: Derek Sheehan, W7REX PO Box 43 Chelsea, MI 48118  
Phone: 734-622-2813 Email: w7rex@arrrl.net

13 Jun 2004 Fulton County ARC <http://www.fcarrc.8m.com>  
Contact: Angela Infante, KB2AVN PO Box 521 Wauseon, OH  
43567 Phone: 419-822-4382 Email: fcarrc@hotmail.com

19 Jun 2004 Midland ARC <http://www.qsl.net/w8kea/>  
Contact: William French, AB8JF 940 West Stewart Road  
Midland, MI 48640-9167 Phone: 989-835-5562  
Email: ab8jf@arrrl.net

20 Jun 2004 Monroe County Radio Communications Assn.  
<http://mcrca.org/hamfest.htm> Contact: Fred VanDaele,  
KA8EBI 4 Carl Drive Monroe, MI 48162 Phone: 734-242-9487

## PREZ SAYS



THE PREZ SEZ:

Greetings to all! I trust every-one has had an enjoyable holiday. Our KLUB has experienced another good OPERATION CARE; AND A BIG THANK\_YOU goes out to all who helped to make it a big success, specially our Chairperson, Clairus Keep (KC8QQN). VERY WELL DONE!

This has been an active weather related SPRING, and our SKYWARN NET has been acquiring a good bit of practice. We are starting to become much more accurate as our practice with real weather problems present themselves. A hearty WELL DONE to all those that have been helping make this important community service, a reality to help the NWS in their mission! WELL DONE Bruce (N8WWX), JON (KC8VAB), and Van (N8GVD) for their Leadership, at Net-Control!

We seem to continue to have problems concerning our machine, and the Board of Directors will be discussing this matter at our next meeting, June 7, 2004 at 19:30 , at the EOC, all members are welcome, to contribute their suggestions or ideas that might be helpful.

A reminder to you, don't forget that we will be having a special visit from our ARRL area Reps. at the regular meeting June 10, 2004 at the EOC. I enjoyed their presentation at the ARROW, last winter, and I'm sure you will be glad you came to hear them speak to the KLUB Members, and answering the questions we may have to help us stay up to date with the many changes that are affecting our craft.

Remember Our Troops, with Prayer!

73..... " G O D B L E S S A M E R I C A "

ART.....

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## LARK SOCIAL NOTES

Our next pre-meeting dinner will be at 5:30 PM, Thursday, June 10th 2004 at Mexicali Allies, 127 N. Michigan, Howell. We meet at 7:00PM at the EOC for our eyeball QSO prior to the 7:30PM LARK meeting.

### **IMPORTANT!**

**Our special guest for the June meeting will be Richard Mondro, W8FQT, the Great Lakes Division Vice Director. Please invite any hams you know of to this special meeting!**



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## Secretary's Report General Meeting May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004

Art. KC8WAZ, called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance. Introductions were made.

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### **SECRETARIES REPORT**

Bruce, N8WWX made motion to accept the Secretaries Report (After Corrections were made). Mac N8RBA seconded. Motion passed.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Rita WA8IAQ made motion to accept the Treasurers Report, Mac N8RBA seconded. Motion passed.

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### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Clairus, KC8QQN sent the final inventory list into the insurance company. It was also mentioned that the Klub owns three other antennas. They will be located & put with the rest of the equipment.

### **ARES/RACES**

Bruce, N8WWX gave out new maps of Livingston County to use for weather nets. He also reported that some cellular phones won't come up on caller ID for 911 calls..

### **PICNIC IN THE PARK**

The Picnic in the Park will be in July & August, In place of our meeting(s). Currently, they are scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6PM.

Clairus, KC8QQN, made a motion to approach Jim N8ENX, and ask if he could approach the Mayor of Howell or the Parks Commissioner on the use of the park for free. Chuck, W8CLK seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **SUNSHINE REPORT**

Three cards were sent out; a collection of \$39 was taken up at this meeting to support the work of the sunshine committee.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

It was discussed that our Klub information be put in the World Radio magazine. A discussion about updating the WELCOME TO LARK book prompted a motion from Clairus, KC8QQN that we do so. Brandon, KC8YHE seconded, and the motion passed

## **ELECTIONS**

Irene, KA8MVW made a motion to open nominations, and Chuck, W8CLK seconded. This motion passed. Clairus, KC8QQN nominated Jim WB8AZP for Technical Director. Art, KC8WAZ seconded. Brandon, KC8YHE, made a motion to close nominations. Mac, N8RBA, seconded. Motion passed. The election took place, producing the following results:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Vice President     | Bruce VanDam N8GVD  |
| Treasurer          | Clairus Keep KC8QQN |
| Technical Director | Jim Kvochick WB8AZP |
| Member At Large    | Chuck Keep W8CLK    |

Clairus, KC8QQN made motion to destroy the ballots, and Chuck, W8CLK seconded. This motion passed, and the ballots were destroyed.

## **OPERATION CARE**

Clairus, KC8QQN announced that our paperwork had returned from the State of Michigan, and that she had sign up lists for members so they could pick their time slot.

## **TRAILER-STORAGE**

Some discussion on a trailer or building to store our equipment.

## **ECHOLINK**

Brandon, KC8YHE made motion to direct any incoming money for Echolink to the Emergency Fund. Bruce, N8WWX seconded. Motion passed.

## **TROOPS OVERSEAS**

It was discussed and decided that the Klub would prepare 8 shoe boxes of items soldiers on the move could use. Brandon, KC8YHE will furnish hand cleaner. Mary, KC8SER has toilet paper & Kleenex. Mac, N8RBA will get the address.

## **REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Irene, KA8MVW, Rita WA8IAQ, and Mary, KC8SER, will be the review committee.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted  
Mary, KC8SER

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# **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

## **LARK Board Meeting May 2004**

### **Board Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Art KC8WAZ

The Secretaries and Treasurers reports read & approved

A special "Thank You" from the board to all who gathered up LARK equipment from various locations.

The Sunshine Committee reported that 2 cards had been sent, with three more about to be sent.

Clairus, KC8QQN is waiting for paperwork granting LARK permission to set up Operation Care. She believes we'll have to move quickly after the forms are returned to finalize plans for Operation Care.

Van, N8GVD reported that he's still checking on a few things for Field Day. Equipment and many other items are already in place. Jim, WB8AZP reported that we are finalizing details for the LARK Foxhunt.

The program Chairpersons have invited Dick & Sandy Mondro to our June meeting.

Bob, K8VQC and Jim, WB8AZP will be giving a talk on amateur radio as part of the Hartland Library summer program. Their talk is scheduled for 7PM, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported to the board that the Boy Scouts who recently visited the EOC expressed an interest in Amateur Radio.

The board noted that there was a need to form a review committee to examine the Klub records after the upcoming election.

Jim WB8AZP, made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Bruce, N8GVD seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary KC8SER

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## TREASURER REPORT

### TREASURER REPORT GENERAL OPERATING FUND

FOR PERIOD MAY 1, 2004 TO MAY 31, 2004

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| OPENING CASH (CHECKING ONLY) | \$ 626.37 |
| INCOME                       |           |
| 50/50 WINNER                 | 31.00     |
| SUNSHINE FUND                | 39.00     |
| TOTAL DEPOSIT                | 70.00     |

|                               |        |            |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------|
| EXPENDITURES                  |        |            |
| JIM WB8AZP, PRINTING LED      |        | 79.28      |
| ENDING BALANCE.               |        | \$ 617.09  |
| OPENING CASH ( CD \$1,000.)   |        | \$1,221.59 |
| OPENING CASH ( CD \$500.)     | 590.50 |            |
| MATURITY DATE 4/9/04 INTEREST | 1.63   | 592.13     |
| TOTAL OPERATING CASH.         |        | \$2,440.09 |

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EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS  
FUND TREASURER REPORT.

PERIOD MAY 1, 2004 TO MAY 31, 2004

|                              |  |           |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|
| OPENING CASH (CHECKING ONLY) |  | \$1167.25 |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|

|                        |  |            |
|------------------------|--|------------|
| BALANCE APRIL 30, 2004 |  | \$ 1167.25 |
|------------------------|--|------------|

|                               |  |         |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|
| BALANCE FOR THE SUNSHINE COMM |  | \$86.44 |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|

Respectfully submitted,  
Clairus KC8QQN  
Treasurer

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WANTED!!!!

I need as many peanut butter containers as possible, something like 50 of them would be great. I would like them to be with lids and of the 16oz size. I have a wide assortment of nuts, bolts, washers and such that is in need of a new home instead of in the bottom of the draws of my tool boxes. Thanks in advance for your help.

## STILL LOOKING

I'm still looking for additional pictures to be included in the Klub photo album. If there are any photos of Sub Drew at our outings, I would like copies. Additionally, any Klub pictures of any LARK activities would be appreciated. Please bring them to a LARK meeting or send them to me!

Mary, KC8SER  
220 N. Rogers  
Mason, MI 48854

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## EDITORS COMMENTS



Lots of things to share with both LARK members and those "not a member, but we'll read your newsletter anyway" folks this month!

Don't forget that our June meeting will feature a visit from our Vice Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division, Richard Mondro, W8FQT. Please invite Klub members, past Klub members, and any other amateurs you run into to join us for the June meeting!!!!!!

## Articles

We still need YOUR articles for the newsletter. Swap items, favorite stories, magical operating moments, remembering your favorite rig, the time your dog ate your logbook, whatever. Need a suggestion for a good article? Just call! Need help writing it down? We can assist you. In case the spring thaw has left you a little confused, you can reach me at:

Jim Kvochick WB8AZP  
10366 Greystone Court  
Brighton, MI 48114-7650

810-220-2098 Voice  
810-220-2126 Fax  
330-283-7070 Cellular

[WB8AZP@ARRL.NET](mailto:WB8AZP@ARRL.NET)

## 50/50 Plus Drawings

If you haven't attended a recent meeting, then you've missed out on fabulous prizes that are given away along with splitting the raffle pot. Ask a member who has attended for the low down. Better yet, why not show up at the next meeting?

## SUNDAY EVENING NET ON 146.68

Let's not forget about the Sunday evening LARK net on 146.68 at 9PM. It's a great time to connect with other LARK members, share information, and just in general gather on the repeater. You would think that a club the size of ours could muster up more than a handful of checkins, now wouldn't you? Why not even volunteer to take on the Net Control responsibility for one or two Sundays to gain some experience? Don't need experience in running a net? How about just volunteering to help out?

## SILENT KEYS ON LARK WEB PAGE

We now have a Silent Key section on the LARK webpage. Feel free to send me additions to this section. If you have special requests, please contact the LED Editor.

## THE PORCUPINES AND SOLIDARITY

It has been told that during the ice age many animals died because of the cold. Seeing this situation, the porcupines decided to group together, so they wrapped up well and protected one another.



But they hurt one another with their thorns, and so then they decided to stay apart from one another. They started to freeze to death again. So they had to make a choice: either they vanished from the face of the earth or they accepted their neighbor's thorns.

They wisely decided to stay together again. They learned to live with the small wounds that a very close relationship could cause, because the most important thing was the warmth given by the other.

And in the end they survived.

Many of the amateurs reading this story can relate. Amateur radio needs the strength of strong clubs to survive. If you are not part of the solution, you become part of the problem. It's time to put away the differences that separate us, and look toward the common good. Get active in the ARRL, and the LARK. Do it now. Rise above the issues.

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

I'm looking for individuals who are LARK members that wish to participate on a Technical Committee. If you have a passion for technology, and you're willing to actively participate, please get in touch with me. If you just want to whine and complain, we have other committees for you to work on.

## OTHER THINGS

Did I mention that you should write an article for the LED? How about getting involved in some of the LARK activities? Maybe even show up for a meeting? You can probably give me all the reasons why you can't, but I can get you one or two why you should. Waiting for tomorrow may not be an option, unless your crystal ball is better than mine is.

## LOANER 2 METER RIGS FROM LARK

Here's another advantage of being a LARK member in good standing. The Klub has available to its members several "loaner" two meter rigs. You don't need to be off the air when your radio is being repaired. Contact the technical director for details.

# MONITORING HELP

We are attempting to track down the source of the intermittent receiver desensitizing issue the LARK 146.68 repeater currently faces. Our first steps involved verifying that we were not the source of the problem (these things do happen).

Our second step has been to verify that this is not a result of some very strange mix or intermodulation component. Although this is not likely, due to the characteristics of the interference, it did have to be checked.

Our third step will involve monitoring specific frequencies also present at the repeater site, and correlate the "on" time of those transmitter(s) with the occurrence of our issue. This will involve active monitoring of about 20 different frequencies, from 150 MHz to 941 MHz. Obviously, this task can be accomplished more effectively by using a team of folks listening to one or two frequencies and the LARK repeater. We'll discuss this briefly at the next regular meeting.

After we identify the source(s), we can approach the agencies that maintain those particular system(s), and ask for their help. Facts are our friends in these types of issues.

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## ARPSC

### **RACES Qualifications**

The FEMA IS-2 Emergency Preparedness U.S.A. is now back on the FEMA-EMI website. This course is one of the requirements for RACES. Please download the material and then take the test. I have some hard copies available.

### **Incident Command System**

Incident Command System is the standard by which Fire, Police, and EMS conduct business. In order to be of assistance in doing your job with providing emergency communication in a critical incident, you must really understand what is going on, and who is really in charge of the incident. The FEMA IS-195 Incident Command System Course is also on the FEMA-EMI website. Please download the material and then take the test if you have not already

**Please don't wait for the real thing and wished that you would have taken the time to attend some training.**

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## **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! OPERATION CARE MEMORIAL WEEKEND 2004**

Just wanted to take a minute to say thanks to everyone that stepped up to do there part for operation care. We managed to take in \$490.56 so not to shabby but GUESS WHAT! I know we can do much better and so that is why we will be getting started in July with our next operation.

So beat the crowd and get in touch with me as soon as possible to sign up for your tour of duty. Now if you are headed out of town for that weekend I have a couple of things you can do for me before you leave that can be done in July, so get it touch with me. I have something that just take a few minutes of your time and can be done in a matter of a couple of minutes. Something for everyone.

I also wanted to express a special thanks to my son Jonathan (KC8RVR) and his bride to be (Amanda) for all the extra effort they put forth in helping with operation care, and also a BIG THANKS to his dad Jerry for the use of his pop up trailer.

Again Thanks for everything.

Clairus Keep  
KC8QQN  
Operation Care Chairperson

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## **OPERATION CARE LABOR DAY 2004**

Dear LARK Members, I will need volunteers for operation care to have my list completed in advance so as to not be stressed out on the final days before the event. Here is a small list of what you can do for this operation and some of it needs to be done in advance.

### **SOLICITING DONATIONS FROM MERCHANTS.**

There is only about 10 on our list and we need to see if we can get that list to grow. I am sure that we can it just takes asking that simple question. WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE? You would be surprised at how many of them says sure I can give a small sum.

### **SET UP.**

Set up will be at 8 AM. on The Friday before Labor day. It only takes about an hour with help or 3 (as Chuck and I found out ) with out it.

### **MANNING THE STATION.**

This is general on a 4 hour shift and can be done any time from 8 AM Friday till 6 PM Monday. There will always be two persons on the shift so you will never work alone. I would also ask that no women sign up for the midnight to 8 AM time slot. It truly is not a place for women or kids in the late night hours.

### **PICKING UP DONATIONS.**

There is a run made everyday during operation care to secure the

donations that we asked for. Depending on how many donations and where they are will depend on just how many runners we would need to pick them up. It is a simple job. Be there at a certain time and say THANK YOU. Pretty easy.

**BREAKING DOWN OPERATION CARE.**

Break down will depend on rain. If we know in advance that it is going to rain we will start breaking down as much stuff as possible to avoid putting stuff away wet. But the final tent should come down and the coffee pot empty at as close to 6 PM as possible.

See when you look at this list you will see if everyone pitches in and does there part it all comes together and ends up being a really enjoyable time for all, plus maybe helping someone along there journey home.

So here is how simple it is. Call, Email, Postal Service, or yes pick up the mike and call me. KC8QQN. Let me know where you want to be in making Operation care Labor Day 2004 a BIGGER success than Operation Care Memorial Day was.



I Wonder Where This Is.



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## FROM THE DESK OF THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

### GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION

Beginning last year, the Great Lakes Division leadership began to hold full-blown Division Conventions once again. These are planned biannually. The first of these was held the Saturday immediately before the Findlay Hamfest in 2003. It was a rousing success. The

second will be in March 2005 and will be the day before the 50th-Anniversary of the Toledo Hamfest.

The speaker at the Convention Banquet (Friday evening) will be none other than Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, of Gettysburg, PA. Riley, of course, heads the Enforcement Bureau of the FCC. He has done great things to assist Amateur Radio. Action approved by him has removed numerous willful and disruptive offenders from our ham bands. I'm sure his speech will be one not to be missed.

As to other aspects of the 2005 Convention, former Director and Convention Chairman Gary Johnston, KI4LA recently issued the following release:

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On the heels of the resounding success of the 2003 Great Lakes Division Convention in Findlay, Ohio (this past September), the 2005 GLD Convention has been announced. The Toledo, Ohio club (Toledo Mobile Radio Association) will host the convention, which will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2005, in conjunction with the Sunday, March 20, 2005, Toledo Hamfest! Both events are held indoors, with the hamfest drawing typically 3,000 hams. Details will be forthcoming, but **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

Also, keep in mind that we will be accepting nominations for the Division level awards: The George S. Wilson III W4OYI Great Lakes Division Award, Great Lakes Division Amateur of the Year, Great Lakes Division Technical Achievement Award, and the Great Lakes Division Newsletter Award. Vice Director Dick Mondro W8FQT from Dearborn Heights., Michigan will chair the GLD Awards Committee and will send out the awards criteria, procedures and deadlines later this summer.

Brenda Krukowski KB8IUP from Toledo has been appointed as the Convention Manager, and Joe Phillips K8QOE from Cincinnati has agreed again to serve as Seminar Chair (send your ideas for the presentations you would like to see to Joel!). Jeanie Dalton KB8QLC from Lexington will continue running the Convention Office. Division Director Jim Weaver K8JE, Kentucky SM John Meyers and Michigan SM Dale Williams WA8EFK are also on the GLD Convention Committee.

We are looking forward to another GREAT convention, and we want YOU to be a part of it!

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My deep thanks to Gary and the SMs of the time for deciding to resume these conventions. Thanks to Gary, the current SMs, Brenda and Jeanie for handling the bulk of the convention work.

## OFTEN FORGOTTEN HAMFEST/SWAP FEATURE

Field Checking of QSL cards for the several Worked All States and DXCC awards can be done at local hamfests, swaps and conventions. All it takes for this to be done is for attendees to bring cards and applications to the event and for event-sponsors to arrange for an authorized volunteer checker to be present to do the checking. Lists of volunteer checkers can be found at the DXCC and WAS pages on the [arrl.org](http://arrl.org) web site.

I encourage hamfest/swap chairs to arrange to have appropriate checkers present and to include this information in event publicity. A time-span for checking can be designated to permit the checker(s) to enjoy the hamfest/swap and still check cards brought by individual amateurs.

## MISC.

As you might guess, I've been out of touch a little, thanks to the demise of my computer. I will be playing catch up as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, a number of messages I had in queue to read later on and very likely a number that were sent while I was having the problem have been lost . . . forever. If you sent anything that should have been acknowledged or received a reply, please send it again.

Looking ahead, the second meeting of the Board of Directors will be the middle of July. If you have anything you would like for me to check on at HQ or to bring to the Board or any of its committees, please send the information to me soon.

Tnx, 73, GL, Jim, K8JE

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ARRL Great Lakes Division  
Director: James Weaver, K8JE  
[k8je@arrl.org](mailto:k8je@arrl.org)  
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Random Shots From The Chelsea Swap....

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THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR YOUR ARTICLE OR SWAP ITEMS....

PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR.....

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