



W8LAP/r
 146.620 - 100Hz
 442.750 + Open
www.w8lap.com

Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

October	Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association	2007
---------	--	------

*The next regular meeting will be held on
 Tuesday, October 9 —7:30 p.m.
 at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)
 2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

News Flash!

Lapeer County ARA has elected officers for the 2007 – 2008 year!

The officers elected are:

- President: N8NE Bob Beswetherick;
- Vice President: KC8TWL Chris Azelton;
- Secretary: KC8CAB Flo Haack;
- Treasurer: KD8VP Bill Miller

News Flash!

**October 6 is the Simulated Emergency Test
 Listen to the Lapeer Repeater Saturday morning for details!**

The Treasury Sez:

Greetings to all, I hope that you're getting your antenna work done now, Fall is here and soon you will have to do your antenna work in the snow and cold weather.

That said I will tell you that the treasury is in much better shape now that Operation Care and the Swap and Shop is behind us. To all those that volunteered for those events, congratulations, you have done a great job and the treasury is sound for this coming year.

There is enough money to once again have a terrific free Christmas party on behalf of the club.

So keep that in mind and contact Chris Azelton KC8TWL if you would like to make a reservation for you and your spouse.

The treasury paid the usual bills in addition to renewal of our Michigan nonprofit status, Post office box rent, and the renewal of our vanity call sign W8LAP. Also there was an expense for stamps to mail those newsletters that get mailed, please consider using e-mail to receive your news to help keep the expense of mailing down.

Thank you and 73 Bill Miller KD8VP

The Secretary Sez:

Do not forget your Club Dues are due in October 2007!

Upcoming Swaps...

October 13 Ancaster, ON—Hamilton ARC Hamfest, 9:00 a.m., Merritt Hall (Hwy. 33 btw. Southcote Rd. & Kittycurry Ln.) T.I. VE3NCP, 146.760-

October 14 Kalamazoo, MI—K'Zoo Hamfest. 8:00 a.m., Kalamazoo Fairgrounds Fairgrounds, T.I. K8KZO 147.040 (94.8 hz PL) Info: info@kalamazoohamfest.org

October 20 Holland, MI—Great Lakeshore Super Swap, 8:00 a.m., Harbor Lights School, 3600 152nd Ave., Info: www.hollandarc.org

October 27 Markham, ON—York Regional Hamfest, 9:00 a.m., Markham Fairgrounds (McCowan Rd. at Elgin Mills Rd. East) T.I. VE3YRA, 145.530- Info: http:// www.yrarc.on.ca

October 28 Stterling Heights, MI—USECA Hamfest, 8:00 a.m., Polish American Century Club, 33204 Maple Lane. T.I. 147.180+ (100 hz PL) Info: hamfest@k8uo.com

From the mailbag:

Tom, KD8EBY says: The Statewide Emergency Disaster DRILL will be happening on Saturday Oct. 6th. I'll let you know as soon as more info becomes available.

Hints, Kinks, Tips and otherwise useful information from the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

NEW HF OPERATORS - THINGS TO DO - A big DX contest is a great way to learn conditions and jump start your DXCC totals. The CQ WW RTTY contest will fill the bands with digital signals to work. Fall conditions are lots better than those in the summer, so hook up that sound card and give it a try!

If tuning the HF bands for a living sounds like your cup of tea, the FCC has some openings (<http://tinyurl.com/yudsy5>) for telecommunications specialists in their HF Direction Finding office. Applications are being accepted through Sep 27. (Thanks, Dan N1ND)

The Web site <http://www.amateurradios.info> contains the beginnings of a list of free ham radio ebooks. Site sponsor Bill W5GRX would be happy to learn of other free books and is
From CONTESTER'S RATE SHEET, 19 SEPTEMBER 2007

One on One, Part Two (continued from last month)

In the last issue, I suggested ways to get new hams interested in contesting. As we all know,

continually adding more links.

If you think things are going too fast on the air down at the bottom of the band Take a listen to this:
<http://www.acidplanet.com/components/embedfile.asp?asset=411714|1&embed=1&t=7318>

TECHNICAL URL OF THE WEEK -- Rudy N6LF has a huge collection (<http://www.antennasbyn6lf.com>) of useful articles. In fact, Jerry K4SAV considers it the best collection of articles on ground measurements, characteristics, and radial systems he has ever seen. Don't forget the archives and <http://www.antennasbyn6lf.com/2005/04/index.html> includes links to articles that appear in ARRL publications.

an interest in contesting usually leads to improving one's skills and station capabilities. An active ham is one that often stays with amateur radio for a lifetime, as well.

But what about those folks that haven't yet taken the plunge? Maybe they're a little curious, maybe they're even a little interested, but how do we get them to open up a license manual and start reading? This is one of the biggest challenges facing amateur radio, along with modernizing our emergency communications structures and protecting the quality and amount of our spectrum allocations.

It would be great to write that the ARRL is committing a huge amount of resources to marketing ham radio and that everything is taken care of...but that's simply not possible.

Even if the ARRL made this a crash program, there simply aren't the huge piles of money and legions of staff to do the job. At most, there are a few dozen League staffers. There are 155,000 ARRL members and around 700,000 licensed amateurs in the US. Which group do YOU think can have the most impact?

Contesters have a great opportunity to publicize and recruit because we do something lots of people understand. We compete. We build stuff. We work hard. We try to be strong and go fast. This resonates with many people that do the same thing in other ways; by foot, wing, or wheel.

Take a look in the paper and on Web sites in your own community. Browse through the do-it-yourself magazines like Make (<http://www.makezine.com>) and Web sites like Instructables (<http://www.instructables.com>). I am positive that there are sporting events, fairs, expositions, conventions, and gatherings of all sorts with something happening just about every weekend. These events are often in need of more participation and would welcome your volunteered presence.

For starters, why not set up a booth at a race track or football game? Make sure to put up a big banner that says "Contest Club" or "Extreme Wireless" or "Radiosport" - not just "Amateur Radio". Your audience is there because they are interested in competition! Use that interest to attract them to you. They

probably won't be all that interested in radio contesting, specifically, but they will certainly take a free brochure or handout about contesting and ham radio. While they're there, look to see how many of them are toting the FRS/GMRS handheld UHF radios or scanners. They're already radio users, but just don't think of themselves as such!

What if your contest club did a Field Day style operation from one of the weekend long events? I'm not talking about a low-key "special event" style operation or "send a message" operation. I'm talking about competitive radio with all the gadgets, gear, computers, and hot operating that makes contesting fun!

While one person is busy operating, have another available to explain the action and hand out flyers. Most contest logging programs are easy to network, so set up a second computer with the biggest display you can manage. Show the audience how each contact is entered, where the other station is located, how scoring works, etc. Keep a big whiteboard showing states or countries worked, what the record is and how close you're getting, best DX, and so forth. You might be surprised at how many people stop back by just to "see how you're doing." They get it!

Come to think of it - a "spectator" program would be a wonderful thing to develop. Software could sit on the network as a participating "station", grab all the necessary information, and link the operation to maps and statistics. This would be a terrific window into the contest for the non-participant. How about it, you software developers out there?

If you give this a try, be sure to tell us about your successes and not-so-successes. Post the story on your Web site and send the Rate Sheet a note with the URL. I'll be happy to publicize it! We are all ambassadors for amateur radio, one way or the other. Why not show off what we do?

73, Ward N0AX

It has been rumored that Bob, N8NE was heard leaving the last meeting humming or whistling that old Johnny Cash favorite "I hear the train a-coming"

This area is reserved for the article you were going to write.

Volunteer Exam Session

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be **October 13, 2006** at 10:00 a.m. in the 2nd floor meeting room at the Port Huron Branch of the St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorrin Blvd, Port Huron, MI.

Pre-registration is required for all sessions during 2007! Call K8WMW at 982-1561 no later than the Tuesday prior to the session.

Bring picture ID, the original and a copy of your present license and the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion (CSC) you may hold. The current fee is \$14.00. For further information call Bob Herbert, K8WMW, at 982-1561

2007 sessions are be:

October 13

November 10

December 8

Bob, K8WMW

For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale:

I want to buy your old ham/electronic/tube gear. I'm particularly looking for the Heathkit Mohawk that I built and sold to Dave Burch four decades ago.

Looking for the April 1999 QST to complete our collection:

Mike AA8K aa8k73@gmail dot com 987-8873

For Sale

HW-8 Handbook—covers HW-7, 8 & 9 \$15

COM port boards, ISA, 2 ports \$3.00 ea

From the estate of N8CQA:

Central Electronics 10B \$130

Central Electronics 20A \$130

One Lakeshore Bandhopper VFO for above \$75 ea

30M two transistor transmitter in a Hershey cocoa can \$15

All offers will be listened to!

Contact Hank K8DD at k8dd@k8dd.com or 810-721-0708

This area is also reserved for the article you were going to write.

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, **Bob Beswetherick**, N8NE
Secretary, **Flo Haack**, KC8CAB.....

Vice-Pres., Chris Azelton, KC8TWL..810-245-0073
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Appointees.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Historian.....Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI
Skywarn Coordinator.....Pete Headrick KB8RSG
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK
Public Information Officer.....**It could be you!**

Club Call TrusteeW8LAP.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Swap & Shop Chairperson.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, K8DD

ARES Repeater Nets

Monday at 9:00 PM on 146.620-
Thursday at 9:00 PM on 442.750+
Mon—Sat at 9:30 PM on 147.300+

Meetings

LCARA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911), 2332 W. Genesee St, Lapeer MI at 7:30 p.m. local time.

Board of Directors' monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Tim Horton's at 7:30PM (Check on the W8LAP repeaters).

Newsletter

Items for the newsletter may be called to the Editor at 810-721-0708, sent by Mail (Box 88, Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII or Word file to k8dd@arrl.net The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

**Be Radio-Active
Participate**

Upcoming DX!

TUNISIA, 3V. Dimitri RW4WM QRV as **3V8SS** to Oct 8, on 30, 17 and 12M CW-RTTY. QSL RW4WM.

MALAWI, 7Q. Ely, IN3VZE will be QRV as **7Q7CE** from southwest of Lake Malawi from October 4 to 25.

Activity will be on all bands using SSB and especially RTTY. QSL home call.

BARBADOS, 8P. Richard, G3RWL is QRV as **8P6DR** until October 13. QSL to home call.

BHUTAN, A5. Ed, N1UR is QRV as **A52UR** until October 2. QSL via K2RET.

BAHRAIN, A9. John, GM6TVR is QRV as **A92HB**. QSL via operator's instructions.

CHINA, BY. Operators **BY1TX/4** and **BY1TT/4** will be QRV from Chang Dao, IOTA AS-146, from October 1 to 6. QSL BY1TX/4 via EA7FTR and BY1TT/4 via BY1TT.

MADEIRA IS, CT3. DJ6QT, DL1YFF, DJ3NG, DJ8NK QRV as **CT9L** in CQWW RTTY. QSL DJ6QT.
BALEARIC ISLANDS, EA6. Javi, LU5FF is QRV as **EA6/LU5FF** from Can Picafort, IOTA EU-004, until November 16. Activity is on 30 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL home call.
IRELAND, EI. During CQIR contest, special event **EI75IRTS** active from Cork and Dublin.
LIBERIA, EL. Operators PA3A, PA3AN, PA8AD and PA3AWW will be QRV as **5L2MS** from October 5 to 24. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via A3AWW.
TAJKISTAN, EY. Nodir, **EY8MM** was QRV using RTTY on 20M around 1230z. QSL K1BV.
TEMOTU PROVINCE, H40. Mike KM9D, Jan KF4TUG QRV as **H40MY** frm Tikopia Is, IOTA OC-178.
LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0. DF4OR, DJ5BX, DK9FEC, DL1FX, DL1ZBO QRV as **HB0/homecalls** until October 1; which includes entry in CQ WW RTTY as **HB0/DF4OR**. QSL to home calls,
HONDURAS, HR. Dan, **HR2DMR** will be QRV in the CQ WW RTTY on 20M. QSL home call.
VATICAN, HV. Francesco, IK0FVC QRV as **HV50VR** for 50th anniversary of Vatican's Santa Maria di Galeria broadcast center; also active as **HV6SP**. QSL HV50VR via IW0GPN, HV6SP via IK0FVC.
SVALBARD, JW. Karl LA8DW, Lars OZ1HPS QRV as **JW8DW** and **JW/OZ1HPS**, from October 1 to 7.
SAN MARINO, T7. John, **T77CD** QRV in the CQ WW RTTY contest. QSL direct via I0MWI.
CAYMAN ISLANDS, ZF. W4YCH, W6JND, W6OMF, W6BO, K6SUE, W4JO QRV as **ZF2DF, ZF2JD, ZF2LH, ZF2BO, ZF2MH, ZF2JO** to Oct 1. QSL to home calls.

And now One way to find where the DX is operating!

Dx Packet Cluster

The **WA8DX** Spider Packet Cluster node is available on **144.970**. At present **WA8DX** is receiving info via K8SMC in Jackson or N8NM in Waterford.

This is a tool you can use to build your DXCC total, see where people are working stations on both HF and VHF, and even pass messages.

Use your TNC to connect in the command mode and use **C WA8DX** as the command. Once connected you will get a welcome screen that asks for info. You should start to see DX spots right away.

Although you can stay connected indefinitely, if you decide to disconnect, type **b** or **bye** and you will be logged out.

You can view an online version of a users manual at: www.wd1l.net/DXSpider/usermanual_en.html

Remember...DX Is!

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

~~~~~  
 N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR  
 October 2007  
 ~~~~~

PRO CW Contest ... QRP Category
 Oct 6, 1600z to 1800z and Oct 7, 0600z to 0800z
 Rules: <http://www.procwclub.yo6ex.ro/contesrules.htm>
 ~~~~~

TARA PSK31 Rumble (PSK31 only) ... QRP Category

Oct 6, 0000z to 2400z

Rules: [http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara\\_seasons.html](http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_seasons.html)

EU SPRINT CONTEST (SSB) ... 100W category

Oct 6, 1600z to 1959z

Rules: <http://www.eusprint.com/>

California QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Oct 6, 1600z to Oct 7, 2159z

Rules: <http://www.cqp.org/>

RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Oct 7, 0700z to 1900z

Rules: <http://www.contesting.co.uk/hfcc/rules/r2128.shtml>

SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards

Oct 10, 0000z to 0200z

Rules: <http://skccgroup.com/sprint/sprint-rules.htm>

10-10 Day Sprint (All) ... QRP Category

Oct 10, 0000z to 2359z

Rules: <http://www.ten-ten.org/rules.html>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

EDT: Oct 9, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM

UTC: Oct 10, 0030Z to 0230Z

Rules: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/contests.html>

Worked All Britain HF Contest (Phone) ... QRP Category

Oct 13, 1200z to Oct 14, 1200z

Rules: <http://wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php>

Pennsylvania QSO Party (CW/SSB/Digital) ... QRP Category

Oct 13, 1600z to Oct 14, 0500z

Oct 14, 1300z to Oct 14, 2200z

Rules: <http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html>

EU SPRINT CONTEST (CW) ... 100W category

Oct 13, 1600z to 1959z

Rules: <http://www.eusprint.com/>

FISTS Fall Sprint (CW) ... QRP Category

Oct 13, 1700z to 2100z

Rules: <http://www.fists.org/sprints.html>

North American Sprint (RTTY) ... QRP Category

Oct 14, 0000Z to 0400Z

Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php>

QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Oct 20, 1200z to Oct 21, 2400z

Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org>

Worked All Germany Contest (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Oct 20, 1500z to Oct 21, 1459z

Rules: <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xedcgr.htm>

[third full weekend]

070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint (PSK) ... QRP Category

Oct 20, 2000 to Oct 21, 0200 (Local Time)

Rules: [http://podxs.com/html/160\\_meter\\_sprint.html](http://podxs.com/html/160_meter_sprint.html)

Illinois QSO Party (CW/PH)... QRP Category

Oct 21, 1700z to Oct 22, 0100z

Rules: <http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP.html>

~~~~~  
RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) *** QRP CONTEST ***

EDT: Oct 21, 9 PM to 11 PM

UTC: Oct 22, 0100z 0300z

Rules: <http://www.gentzow.com/fpgrp/>

~~~~~  
Zombie Shuffle (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST \*\*\*

Oct 26, Local Sundown to Local Midnight (Any 4 hour period)

Rules: <http://www.zianet.com/QRP/>

~~~~~  
SKCC Weekend Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Category

Oct 28, 0000z to 0000z

Rules: <http://www.iglou.com/sonic//skcc/wknd-sprint-rules.html>

~~~~~  
CQ WW DX Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category

Oct 27, 0000z to Oct 28, 2400z

Rules: <http://www.cqww.com/>

~~~~~  
Ten-Ten QSO Party (CW/Digital) ... QRP Category

Oct 27, 0001z to Oct 28, 2359z

Rules: <http://www.ten-ten.org/calendar.html>

~~~~~  
MQFD Monthly Sprint (CW/PH/Digital) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Oct 27, 1800z to 2200z

Rules: <http://w2agn.net/mqfdsprint.html>

~~~~~  
Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL), N2APB, WB3AAL and others
for assistance in compiling this calendar.

If you wish to subscribe to the Calendar,
send an e-mail to N2CQ@ARRL.Net

Please forward the contest info you sponsor to N2CQ@ARRL.NET and
we will post it and give it more publicity.

Anyone may use this "N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar" for your website,
newsletter, e-mail list or other media as you choose.

(Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ

N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar Links:

<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm>

<http://www.amqrp.org/contesting/contesting.html>

WINTER SPOTTER TRAINING WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 1st 7-8:30 PM
County of Lapeer Annex Building

287 W. Nepessing Street, Lapeer

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- **Four Season Spotting including snow, ice, floods, non thunderstorm high winds, and dense fog**
- **Measuring snowfall**
- **Estimating ice accumulation**
- **Estimating wind speeds**
- **Winter weather definitions, NWS watches, warnings and advisories**
- **Winter weather safety**
- **Review Historic Southeast MI Storms**
- **2007-2008 Winter Outlook**

*Hosted by the
National Weather Service and the
Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management*
**NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. FOR MORE
INFORMATION, CALL 810-667-0242**