W8LAP

LCARA Waveguide

April Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association **2003**

Upcoming Swap & Shops

April 12 Michigan Antique Radio Club Info: Mike Dale Phone: 734-439-0834 Email: mdale8@peoplepc.com
April 12 Jackson County ARC Info: Edgar Dempsey, KD8XL Phone: 740-286-3239 Email: kd8xl@aceinter.net http://clik.to/jacksonhamfest
May 3 Wexaukee ARC Cadillac, MI Info: Brian Polk, KC8TXT Phone: 231-743-6860 Email: bandb@netonecom.net http://members.fortunecity.com/wexaukee/
May 16-19 Dayton Hamvention www.hamvention.org
Sunday, June 1st — Ham and Antique Radio Swap, Chelsea, MI. Info: ab8fn@arrl.net
Saturday, June 14—Midland ARC Swap...contact: Bill French, AB8JF 989.835.5562

This month's Meeting is Tuesday, April 8th—7:30 p.m. At the Lapeer County Sheriff's 911 center at 2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement

The Presidents Column

Ken Kelch, AB8PM

Greetings to all. Spring is in the air! We have a busy summer planned once again. Thursday April 3, we are scheduled to meet with Lapeer County Road Commission Officials about potential tower sites. They have at least 3 available and it sounds like they are more than willing work with us. We should have more information at the meeting.

The first major event of the summer will be Operation C.A.R.E. on May 23rd to the 26th. The plan is to have an online signup sheet in the next couple of weeks. I am working on a way to have your call be automatically in the timeslot that you choose. If you know when you want to sign up, let Bill, KC8SHI or myself know. Operation C.A.R.E. enters its 26th year of operation in 2003. This makes it one of the longest running traffic safety initiatives in our nation's history. Operation C.A.R.E. was formed to deter the three key causes of highway fatalities: speeding, impaired driving and failure to use occupant restraints. Our part in all of that is passing out re-

(Continued on page 10)

The Beginner's Guide to Working the ISS on Packet

By Josh Long, N8CFS

This is the second installation in a series of articles…

Last month's column discussed the basic equipment needed to contact and utilize the 2m packet station located on board the International Space Station. This month we'll take a look at one critical application for working the ISS: a satellite tracking program.

You may ask, "Why do I need to use a computer program to determine the location of the space station." In order to answer this question, it is important to point out an important characteristic about the station's orbit. At a first guess, you might think that the station orbits the earth in a circular pattern, following the same relative path on each orbital pass. However, the station actually orbits in a sine-wave pattern. On each orbital pass, the trajectory of the station changes significantly. For example, on one orbit, the station may pass above New York City, and on the next orbit, the station will pass over Tampa, Florida.

Since satellite orbits are ever changing, satellite-tracking programs utilize a text file of orbital data called *Keplarian elements*. Tracking programs utilize these elements with algorithms to calculate the location of the satellite, including the ISS. Keplarian elements are updated weekly and are available free through a number of sources, including the ARRL website (www.arrl.org). Some programs have an automatically updating option

(Continued on page 5)

Third Edition of Radiotelegraphy Book Still in Print: The third edition of The Art and Skill of Radio-Telegraphy by the late Bill Pierpont, N0HFF, remains available. A spiral-bound, compact-print book, measuring 5-1/2 by 8-1/2 inches, is now in its sixth printing from the Radio Amateur Educational Society (RAES) raes@sas.ab.ca in Edmonton, Alberta. A giant-print edition also is available, as well as a free downloadable version. Visit the RAES Web site http://www.raes.ab.ca/book.html for details. The FISTS CW Club is scheduled to have a fourth edition available at Dayton Hamvention.--Ken Pierpont, KF4OW; Mike Dinelli, N9BOR

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, Ken Kelch, AB8PM.....810-245-3907
Vice-President, Josh Long, N8CFS...810-724-6790
Secretary, Therese Long, KC8PEZ..810-724-6790
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Etc.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Call Trustee W8LAP.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Swap & Shop Chairpersons.....Ken Kelch, AB8PM
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, .K8DD
Club Historian.....Fred Church, N8ABR

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 Sheriff's 911 center, 2332 W. Genesee St, Lapeer MI at 7:30 p.m. local time

Newsletter

Items for the newsletter may be called to the Editor at 721-0708, sent by U.S. Mail (Box 88, Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII file, Word file or hand-written to k8dd@arrl.net

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

Show your club colors

The following items, all with the LCARA logo, are available to members. Your name and callsign could be included at no extra charge.

Tee shirts.....$15.00
Sweat shirts, hooded.....$30.00
Sweat shirts, long sleeve without hood.....$18.00
Golf shirts, grey, yellow or white.....$19.00
Nylon jacket, windbreaker.....$35.00
Heavier poplin jacket, flannel lined, quilted.....$85.00

Sizes available to XXL at the prices listed above.
For each "X" above XL, add $2.00.

Call Flo Haack, KC8CAB , or contact her at any club meeting to place your order.

LCARA's Video Library

The club has a number of video tapes available for use by members at no charge. If you would like to borrow one or more of the tapes, contact Ken AB8PM, at any club meeting.

Titles presently available:

- Getting Started in Ham Radio
- Getting Started in DXing
- Getting Started in Packet Radio
- Getting Started in Amateur Satellites
- Getting Started in Contesting

Tapes may be retained by the borrower for one month and must be returned at the following month's meeting.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Directors' monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the BK Lounge at 7:30PM as needed (announced on the W8LAP repeaters). **All club members are urged to attend.**

Contributors to this newsletter:

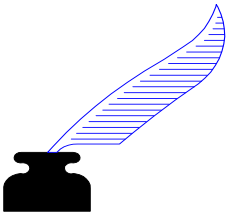
Jim KD8YX | Therese KC8PEZ | ARRL Letter
Josh N8CFS | Dick AF8X | Bill KD8VP
Mary Stikeleather

Your name and call should be here!

While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store



LCARA Monthly Meeting
March 11, 2003
911 E. Central Dispatch, Lapeer, MI



The meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by Ken AB8PM with the pledge of allegiance and introductions of visitors: John N8PCA, Josh Elston, Virgil Love and Bill Love KG4SSP. There were no hospital/SK reports. Josh N8CFS received his MARS callsign. There were no other awards or upgrades.

President's Report: given by Ken AB8PM. Echo-link is down until Ken can get a different computer to run it on. Ken plans to run Echo-link on request.

VP report: given by Josh N8CFS. Josh had nothing new to report.

Secretary's report: read by Therese KC8PEZ. Minutes accepted as read.

Treasurer's report: read by Bill KD8VP. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

PIO report: given by Jim KD8YX for Bill KC8SHI. Bill has been able to publicize the upcoming VE Session (Mar. 29) in the Lapeer County Press and WMPC.

EC/Trustee's report: given by Jim KD8YX. There will be Skywarn Spotter Training on Wednesday, March 19, 7-9:30 PM at Lapeer East High School auditorium.

Old Business:

Jim has been attempting to contact the people in regard to two possible tower sites.

New Business:

Volunteers are needed to help with registration at Skywarn Training, Mar. 19.

The club talked about upcoming events – Operation CARE, Field Day.

After break, Josh N8CFS gave a presentation on MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System). One of the many functions of this volunteer organization is to send traffic messages for military personnel. MARS operates outside of the amateur frequencies, but often on HF. The only requirement to become a MARS operator is that the amateur hold a valid Technician license.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Don KC8GNI.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM by Ken AB8PM.

Submitted by Therese Long, KC8PEZ, secretary

The Michigan QSO Party now has its own Web site at http://www.miqp.org. It has quite a list of features and functions, so stop by! The Michigan QSO Party occurs on the third Saturday in April. For the year 2003, the contest will start on Saturday, April 19, 2003 .
See Page 6 for details!

This space is where you could have submitted something.
Tell us about:

- What DX did you work?
- What interesting QSO did you have recently?
- Did you try a different antenna? Did it work?
- Did another ham you know do something to qualify for "here's your sign"? (the stoopid sign—and we won't publish your call or name!)
- Rumors

Most any format is fine—Text file, Word file, hand written, typed or verbal over the phone. See page 2 for Newsletter contact information!

Be RadioActive—Participate!

A very interesting QSO

Bill KD8VP

On April 23, 1984 I had probably the most interesting QSO of all the QSO's I've ever had.

While tuning around 15 meters I replied to a CQ from N7BEI, Peter. He proceeded to tell me all about his little kingdom in Apache County, Arizona

Peter was a 70-year-old hermit, retired from the United States Air Force, living on a little plateau adjacent to the Apache Indian reservation. He was completely self sufficient using batteries wired in series to 120 volts DC, solar heat, propane for fuel to cook, refrigerate, and hot water. He used the batteries to run all kinds of things like, fans, vacuum sweepers, and power tools, and charged them when needed with an old surplus generator. His radio was an ASTRO putting out 75 watts into a home brew four element Yagi.

Peter held me spell bound for quite a while and I had little to say about my situation other than to tell him about my station and the weather in Michigan, since I depended on everything that he did without.

His final comment was, no TV, no phone, no mail, no noise, and no neighbors except an occasional Indian.

I will never forget this memorable QSO, and the nice QSL card I received from him.

73 Bill KD8VP

2003 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Make this a club activity!

Attention Michigan Amateurs. Spring is here and it's time for the Michigan QSO Party. This is a great opportunity to get on the HF bands, have some fun, and represent the great State of Michigan. The organizers of this event would like to see as many Michigan stations on the air as possible. It is the activity of the Michigan stations that will make this event a success. This event, like other state QSO parties has seen an increase in activity in recent years. With your participation it has the potential to be one of the best QSO parties in the country.

Hey, why not challenge another local area club or other groups within your club?

As you can see from the rules listed below, this is only a 12 hour event.. Consider getting on the air for the whole thing, or any portion of the 12 hour period. You can operate from home, portable, or mobile.

We again with the support of mobile stations plan on having some activity in all 83 counties. How about making this a club event? You can submit your individual or multi-op scores under the name of the club and maybe bring home the club plaque. Hey, why not challenge another local area club or other groups within your club? Are there others in your club that would consider a mini expedition for a portable operation in one of the Michigan counties with minimal activity?? The name of the game is to have fun and make Michigan "Radio Active" on April 19th. Hope to hear you on the air!

Date /Time: Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, from 1600Z April 19th until 0400Z April 20th. Stations may operate the full 12 hours. (12 noon to 12 midnight local Michigan time on April 19)

Modes and Categories: Phone and CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. Single-op, multi-op, and mobile categories. Single-op entries are categorized by output power, QRP (5W or less), Low Power (100W or less), and High Power (greater than 100W)

Multipliers: Work stations once per band and mode. Work other states and Michigan Stations. Work portables and mobiles again as they change county, state or province.

Exchange: Exchange QSO number and location (county for MI stations, state/province or "DX" for others).

Freqs: Suggested frequencies: CW-3545, 7045, 14045, 21045, 28045; Phone-3850, 7225, 14250, 21300, 28450.

Scoring: One point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO. Count multipliers once per mode. Multipliers are MI counties for all entries, plus states & provinces for MI entries only. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers.

Log Submittal: Mail logs no later than 30 days after the contest to: Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruett, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 or via e-mail to logs@miqp.org

More Information: For complete rules, along with free logging software, log and summary sheets, see http://www.miqp.org The information packet found on the web site may also be emailed.

Contact NU8Z cqnu8z@attbi.com

If you have an e-mail address and would like the Waveguide via e-mail, let Ken AB8PM (ab8pm@arrl.net) know and it will happen. This can help save postage and printing for the club….And the pictures will look better!

Vandalism Thwarted at Lapeer East HS

Lapeer, MI March 19, 2003—Possible vandalism was thwarted after the Lapeer County's annual SkyWarn training when an amateur was stopped by the Lapeer PD leaving the school. The amateur, from Imlay City, was driving an older vehicle with what the officer must have thought were "strange looking plates" and suspicious behavior. However the amateur was released on her own recognizance.

For Sale



This is a great place to sell what you don't need, give away what you don't need or look for what you can't live with out. Ads will be run for 2 months.

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Wanted: Articles, stories, pictures, facts, fables, witticisms or what-have -you for the Wageguide. If you have something that you think will be of interest to the LCARA membership, please get it to the Editor. See Page 3 for contact information.

Rooms for Hamvention in Dayton If you are planning on going to the Hamvention this year and need a room, I have some extra rooms in a block of rooms with for Fri and Sat, May 16 & 17 for $74 + taxes. Anyone interested call me at 810-721-0708 –*Hank K8DD*

How's Your Code Speed?

By Dick Arnold AF8X

You've been a ham for ten years and still can't copy CW faster than 15 WPM. If this sounds familiar, cheer up: anyone who has mastered the basics of CW can copy up to 35 WPM without years of practice.

I recently hired a temporary stenographer to finish up some work left to me by my partner. I was amazed at the skills this young lady possessed. She could take dictation at well over 200 WPM and type at the rate of 120 WPM! When I commented on her unusual proficiency, she told me she was trained at professor Schmidt's School of Stenography in Berlin, Germany. A part of her training, she added, included a strict diet rich in carbohydrates and an aggressive exercise regimen, both of which she still maintained. This got me to thinking and I decided to do a study to see if a program like this would have an effect on radio operation, namely CW.

I assembled a study group of 30 hams from local clubs, 15 high-speed CW operators and 15 not so fast operators. A look at each group's diet showed some promise. 14 of the 15 high-speed ops ate a high carb diet as opposed to the slower group of operators, whose diet consisted of almost all protein. The exercise part of the program was not very popular so I decided to proceed with the diet alone.

Ten of the slow operators agreed to participate in a test involving a change of diet to high carb meals for 30 days. After only 15 days on this diet, six of the operators could copy 20 WPM and all but one of the others increased their code speed by at least 6 WPM. Further tests at the end of the 30 days showed improvement in all 15 op's code speed, with 4 of the group able to copy 35 WPM!

It appears that the effect of diet on mental quickness has been a closely guarded secret discovered by German scientists sometime during the war years of the '40s. Professor Schmidt was the first to apply this technique to commercial use. The U.S. Government has also been experimenting with different diets for their astronaut-training program.

(Continued from page 1) ***The Beginners Guide***

for Keplarian elements, whereas other programs need to have the elements

There is a wide number of satellite-tracking programs available today. Although a variety of programs are available through commercial vendors, there are a number of Windows and DOS-based shareware and freeware versions. A good place to look for satellite-tracking programs is the AMSAT website (www.amsat.org). Next month's article will consider operating techniques.

How to find True North

Something we all need to know is an exact method for finding True North. Having observed several in-depth discussions on this topic, I believe that I have distilled the assembled wisdom of many emails into the following guaranteed 13-step process:

1 -- Stack all patio furniture in the garage. No particular reason, just do it.
2 -- Don your tower climbing belt, which must include two gorilla hooks and a positioning lanyard, lots of caribeeners, a Danforth anchor and a planetary gearhead.
3 -- Prepare some epoxy and obtain 200 meters of Thelman wire.
4 -- Use a slingshot, fishing rod, or potato gun to fling the Thelman wire through the top of the tower. Secure it to a convenient guy anchor with a caribeener and a Singapore Sling tied in a Four-In-Hand Knot.
5 -- Climb the tower.
6 -- Return down the tower to pick up the Plastic Owl.
7 -- Climb the tower.
8 -- Return down the tower to brief the ground crew and agree on hand signals. Name the Plastic Owl.
9 -- Go to the bathroom and climb the tower again in that order.
10 -- At the top of the tower, scare away the birds by securing the Plastic Owl to the wasp's nest using the Danforth anchor. Attach the planetary gearhead to the Thelman wire using the epoxy.
11 --Clip your positioning lanyard to the gearhead and spin around the tower twice saying, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home."
12 -- Yell down to the ground crew and have them point to True North. Take the average of the directions in which they point and compute the vector cross-product. You may ignore your estimated direction because you're a scalar. (Sorry, obscure math joke.)
13 - Mark a large "X" on the side of your tool bucket. This is True North and so shall it always be.

-ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for March 26, 2003

Poisson d'Avrill Contest

Don't forget to look for some "special" calls that might show up on April 1st. The list includes GH0ST, AP1RL, F0OL, UP2LID, C0AX, SP1RIT and many others. Good luck in the contest!

Support Amateur Radio

Join the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association and the American Radio Relay League. Have your voice heard both locally and nationally.

Having trouble opening the Waveguide on-line?

Here is some advice to try if you are having trouble reading the Waveguide via email...For those who have IE and have trouble opening the Newsletter, check to see if you have the identified box "unchecked".

- Open Outlook Express
- Click Tools, Options
- Click Security Tab
- Remove check mark from box

Do not allow attachments to be saved or opened that could be potentially a virus

- Click Apply, OK

If anyone is concerned about doing this, they can apply this ONLY for getting the Waveguide, then return to the original setting.

Also go to www.adobe.com and download the latest Adboe Reader, which is available at no cost!

From the Lapeer County Emergency Management Division:

I would like to thank all of those you helped us with another successful Tornado Spotter Class. It couldn't have happened without your support and hard work. Thank you.

SKYWARN

In addition, please mark your calendars for our 2003 Full Scale Disaster Exercise being held on Friday, May 30th (8:30am – 2:00pm). Our Planning Committee has been meeting monthly, and if someone from LCARA would like to join us, please let me know and I will be glad to add you to the mailing list. We have a great exercise planned. We will be offering training in the morning (at Ed-Tech a.k.a Vo-Tech), then we will kick the exercise off late morning at the Imlay City Fairgrounds, finally, we will be returning to Ed-Tech for a Debriefing.

Again, please let me know if you are interested in participating. Mary Stikeleather
mstikeleather@mail.lapeer.org 810 667 0242

April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 ARES Net 442.750	4	5 QCWA & MO QSO Parties
6	7 ARES Net 146.62	8 LCARA Meeting	9	10 ARES Net 442.750	11	12 GA QSO Party
13	14 ARES Net 146.62	15	16	17 ARES Net 442.750	18	19 MI & ON QSO Parties
20	21 ARES Net 146.62	22	23	24 ARES Net 442.750	25	26 FL & NE QSO Parties
27	28 ARES Net 146.62	29	30			

Beecher 50th Anniversary Commemoration Committee

1953 Beecher Tornado

National Weather Service -
Beecher Tornado
Committee

Richard Pollman
National Weather Service

Grace Ranger
Emergency Management
Genesee County

Mary Stikeleather
Emergency Management
Lapeer County

Tim Shickles
Sloan Museum

John West
American Red Cross

Ed Rouders
The Flint Journal

Willard Hotchkiss
The Salvation Army

Jim Neering
Flushing, MI

Chief Daudre Williams
City of Flint Fire Dept.

Donald J. Krapohl
Mt. Morris Township, MI

Rachel Zagaroli
American Red Cross

Gayle I. Reed
Secretary-Treasurer
50th Anniversary
Committee

As some of you may remember, amateur radio played a key role in the response/recover efforts of this Disastrous event 50 years ago. Our Committee is hoping for a strong commitment from the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association members to help with radio communications on the day of our Ceremony. I would ask each of you to look at your calendars and mark the date listed below if you are able to help us. In addition, there will be tables made available for you to display any items that you would like.

I thank you again for your day-to-day commitment and look forward to seeing you soon.

When: **Sunday, June 8, 2003**
12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Where: **Beecher High School, Flint**

Events:
Wreath Laying
Commemoration Ceremony
Survivor Reunion
Displays
Program Book

More Information: **Gayle Reed at 810-785-2270**

Please join us to remember those who lost there lives.

WHY SUPPORT ARRL?

Dick Mondro W8FQT Vice Director, ARRL Great Lakes Div.

Imagine if ARRL could double in size in a few short years! Imagine the great projects that we could take on! It is possible, and it's all up to those of us that believe in Our League, the Affiliated Clubs and the membership that is the heart and pulse of our clubs and ARRL.

Make no mistake about it, when we speak of ARRL or The League, we are talking about a national membership association specifically for amateur radio operators, for all of us. We are the ARRL and our support makes it what it is.

Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, today ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States. ARRL is a "not for profit" organization that promotes interest in amateur radio operation and experimentation, but also represents radio amateurs in legislative matters affecting our very existence.

ARRL Headquarters employs a staff of 120 people to provide us with needed services. I have been a member for over forty years and I had no idea of the professionalism and dedication that exists in the headquarters complex. I was amazed when I was able to see, with my own eyes, the work being done for all of us within those walls. It is truly awe inspiring and you must really see it to understand the passion with which these men and women put forth for our benefit.

Many of our clubs and other membership organizations have been losing members recently. We are dis-associating ourselves with others. More and more, as a society and as individuals, we are missing out on the camaraderie and a sense of pride in belonging to an organization that is unique to us as individuals and based on our skills and interests.

How can we correct that? We can start with the first step, getting involved in service to the public. It takes more than simply joining to make us a part of Amateur Radio's public service team. Belonging requires action such as commitment and training.

Let's take a look at the Basis and Purpose of Part 97, that regulates the amateur radio service. The very first item states, "Recognition and enhancement of the values of the amateur radio service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

These words tell me that, as a condition of my license, I am responsible to the public, the citizens of my community, state and nation, to provide my voluntary services by providing communications when needed. Most of us are blessed to have a very unique talent in our ability to provide communications. We can best do that by volunteering our skills to the amateur radio emergency service. To provide this service, we must first have a basic understanding of what is expected of us and how to effectively provide a much needed service. To gain this understanding we must first be trained in the types of services and procedures to be used as well as understanding the organization itself.

If you act soon the second step, training, won't cost you anything but your time thanks to the grant to the ARRL from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). This federal grant to enhance homeland security already has funded the training and certification of hundreds of amateurs through the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course. As a result, the Amateur Radio community is better prepared than ever to heed the call whenever and wherever a natural disaster or other catastrophe may strike. This grant is tangible evidence that the federal government sees us as partners in the effort to ensure the security of our nation and its citizens.

There is another step that you can use to explain to others why you are volunteering your time to public service. It is a short, six minute video entitled "Amateur Radio Today", produced by ARRL. This should be used in promoting Amateur Radio to non-amateur audiences throughout the country. Take the time to watch it. (Check the ARRL Web site for availability.) You will swell with pride as you watch and hear one of the most respected and recognized Americans of all time extol the virtues of Amateur Radio, which means so much to all of us.

But don't stop there. In the words of Dave Sumner K1ZZ, ARRL Executive Vice President, "As you watch the sailboat in the closing scene, imagine that it represents Amateur Radio and think about where you are on the screen. Are you helping trim the sails? Are you helping maintain a steady hand on the tiller? Or are you out of sight beneath the surface, perhaps a barnacle, not impeding progress very much but just along for the ride while others do the work?"

We have been blessed with many talents and skills and now is the time to use them in the service to our communities. Let's not just go along for the ride, but instead provide direction and purpose to our served agencies through ARES. Keep your local radio clubs strong by providing support and participation.

While we are at it, with all the pride in being involved in the only failsafe communication service in the world, let us all look to a friend or colleague and convince them that League membership is important to keep the wheels in motion and to keep amateur radio safe for our posterity. We cannot afford any more cuts in services provided to us due to lack of funding. It is up to us to provide for amateur radio, so that it's future is insured in the years to come.

Promoting ARRL and amateur radio is not the sole responsibility of the Headquarters Staff. They do a fine job from all aspects but that is not enough. We must all accept responsibility to sell ARRL Membership and promote all the good that we have all derived from ARRL, The National Organization for Amateur Radio. Please join me in getting the message out.

73, Dick Mondro W8FQT
Vice Director, ARRL Great Lakes Division.







Assuming the action in Iraq is still in progress by the time you read this:

Clipped from "Popular Communications" magazine

Monitoring The Iraq War:

As the world waits and watches Iraq, if you've got a short-wave receiver with sideband mode (USB and LSB) you can hear certain military communications related to the conflict including many long-distance GHFS (Global HF System) stations including Emergency Action Messages (EAMs) and Skyking messages which are high-priority messages for air and ground stations.

Frequencies to monitor (in the USB mode) include: 4709, 4724, 6712, 6739, 8992, 11175, 11271, 15038 (11175 is a very active frequency most of the time)

Shortwave broadcasts from the Middle East that you can hear with a reasonable antenna include the following. Note that UTC (Universal Time) is 5 hours ahead of EST. Note that because the changing situation in the area these times and frequencies are subject to change; of course checking the frequencies from time to time is your best bet of hearing a broadcast.

Egypt, Radio Cairo on 9900 at 2315 UTC

Iran, Voice of the Islamic Republic, Tehran on 9022 at 1030 UTC (also on 9835 and 11970) Iran also on 13730 and 13745 at 1330 UTC.

Iraq, Radio Baghdad on 11787 (varies slightly to 11785) at 2000 UTC. Also check 15265, 15375, 15385, 21470 at 1100 UTC.

Israel, Kol Israel on 6280, 7475, 9435 at 0500 (also on 11605). Israel also on 15640, 17535 and 6220 at 2000 UTC. Also check 1700 UTC on 17545. At 1900 UTC on 11605, 15615 and 17545.

Kuwait (Radio Kuwait) on 11990 kHz at 1800 UTC. Also check 15110 kHz.

Syria, Radio Damascus on 12085 (and 13610 frequently) at 0500 and 2000 UTC

Turkey, Voice of Turkey, Ankara on 11960 and 12000 at 2100 UTC; on 6020 at 0400 and 2300 UTC

United Arab Emirates Radio, Dubai on 13675, 15395 at 0020, 1330 UTC; 15395 at 0030; 0200 on 15395 and 15370;

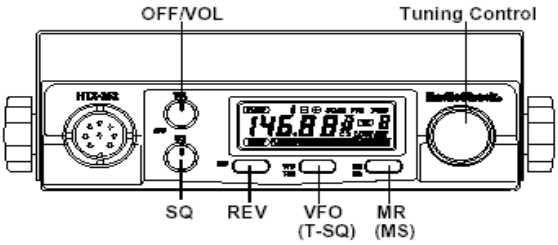
RadioShack
You've got questions. We've got answers.

HillCraft Electronics 888-520-2002

Just North of I-69 on Van Dyke (M-53)
In the Farmer Jack Plaza

Dealer

2-Meter FM Mobile Transceiver is a compact and versatile transceiver, for your vehicle or in your home.



HTX-252

Features:

- High (25 Watt) and Low (10 Watt) Power Settings
- 10-Memory Channels and 1 Call Channel
- Frequency Range of 144-148 MHz (TX) and 136-174 MHz coverage. You can also extend the transmit (RX)
- Channel Up/Down and 16-Key DTMF on the Mic
- CTCSS (Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System)
- Programmable frequency step
- Signal Strength Indicator
- Compact - 1.25" x 5.12" x 5.5" (HWD) & 1.54 lbs

$159.99

Compact Dual-Band 144/440MHz Transceiver with Built-In NOAA Weather Alert and 8-Point Compass



$269.99

As reviewed in the February 2003 CQ

HTX-200
2M / 70CM 200 mW handheld transceiver.
Closeout
$99.00

HTX-200

Features:

- Dual-frequency display dual band, 2M/70cm, 5 watt amateur radio HT
- Broadband receiver 108-174 and 420-512MHz with 100-channel memory
- Radio includes electronic compass and is compatible with Weather Receive and SAME Weather Alert
- CTCSS encode/decode
- Illuminated 16-key DTFM
- Multiple scan modes
- Power-out 5W on 2M, 4.5W on 70cm with external 13.8VDC or 4.2W on 2M, 3.2W on 70cm with 1200maH lithium-ion battery pack (included) H/M/L power settings, battery voltage meter, 7
- Includes empty battery shell; accepts 4 "AA" batteries

(Continued from page 1) *President*

freshments and conversing with the "weary travelers" to get their mind off the road for a bit. If you have never been "out on the hill", as we affectionately call it, give it a try. It's a lot of fun. You will meet a lot of interesting people and maybe get an eyeball on some of your ham friends.

What is Field Day all about? Simply having fun and getting things to work in less than ideal conditions. Field Day this year will be held on June 28th and 29th. Last year was bigger and better than ever. We ran 4 HF stations all night. We had RTTY, PSK 32, Packet, CW as well as voice going at various times. We ran on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 160 meters and may have communicated on other bands as well. There were demonstrations of APRS, ATV and SSTV modes. We put up a balloon and a 100' tower and lots of wire. Bill, KD8VP is developing a new beam antenna for this year. We have heard a bit of chatter already about this year. If you want to give HF a try, this is your chance. Be a part of the fun. For more information contact Bill, KD8VP who will be coordinating the event this year.

On Page 7 is the announcement about the Beecher 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the tornado that went through Flint in 1953. They are asking for amateur operators to attend and have a display about amateur radio and talk to the public about what we can do in the event of emergencies. **Please** consider helping out with this project.

73

Ken

Coax Data Sheet

Here's a nice, one-page reference sheet for the important characteristics of many types of coaxial cable: http://www.thewireman.com/coaxdata.pdf. Very handy -- print it out and keep it in the shack or just bookmark the site. (Thanks to The Wireman) *-ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for March 12, 2003*

This is your spot!

News reports, upgrades, achievements, rumors, humorous events, questions, sound-off, how many bands you worked STØRY or the last Ducie Is Dxpedition, or any reports. Send anything you have to the editor (see page 2) in any form—handwritten, typed, ascii file, email, disk, chipped in stone, or by packet radio (144.970 WA8DX).

Weather Scramble

J T B A F R W A L L S I S T X Z
L O M Q M V C O W D H D U H M Y
L L L T O V L A N V T X S U B V
E E T A C F R I F L C K H N I S
C N E H F N W L L L I T E D H U
I N F N I Q E L O A R S L E T P
T U E N E Z Y S O F R R F R A E
L F G U Y K W D D N U U N S L R
U U C L T V F U I I S B D T I C
M G C U L O H C N A W N I O G E
H W L Z M C R S G R A W S R H L
A U O I D U Z N S M T O A M T L
I T U A U C L Q A M C D S R N O
L O D Q G Q V U S D H H T Z I K
W C L U S T E R S M O Q E W N K
U O U T F L O W D K C O R Q G A

cirrus
watch
thunderstorm
funnel
downburst
rainfall
lightning
winds
multicell
cloud
wall
cumulus
warning
tornado
flooding
hail
scud
outflow
supercell
cluster
shelf
disaster

"Suppose you were an idiot ... And suppose you were a member of Congress... but I repeat myself." --Mark Twain

Are you curious as to what the different colors represent in the Homeland Security scheme?

Below is an explanation from the Emergency Management Coordinator at M.S.U.
The following simplified explanation of the Homeland Security Advisory System comes from FEMA:

The system was designed after September 11, 2001 to provide warnings to the American people about the threat level for a terrorist attack. There are five "threat conditions," each designated by a specific color. The federal government and emergency managers have specific actions they take depending on the threat level. The greater the risk of a terrorist attack, the higher the threat level.

The U.S. Attorney General and the Secretary for Homeland Security set the threat level. The threat level is reviewed every 24 hours to determine whether it remains or is changed. From its inception through February 2003, there were only two changes to the alert status. In July, 2002, officials felt the threat had increased, and changed the level from yellow to orange. After the July 4th holiday, they lowered the level back to yellow. The threat was elevated again to orange in early February 2003. Threat conditions may be assigned for the entire nation, or they may be set for a particular geographic
area or industrial sector.

The five threat levels are:
GREEN: "Low Condition". There is a low risk of terrorist attacks. Government's Role - Train personnel on the Homeland Security Advisory System and ensure all facilities and regulated sectors are regularly assessed for vulnerabilities to terrorist attacks. Individual's Role - Develop a household disaster plan and assemble a disaster supply kit.

BLUE: "Guarded Condition". There is a general risk of terrorist attacks. Government's Role - Review and update communication and emergency response procedures and provide the public with information that would strengthen its ability to act appropriately. Individual's Role - Update assembled disaster supply kit and review household disaster plan, perhaps develop a more detailed household

YELLOW: "Elevated Condition". There is a significant risk of terrorist attacks. Government's Role - Increase surveillance of critical locations; and implement, as appropriate, contingency and emergency response plans. Individual's Role - Be observant of suspicious activity and report it to authorities; become familiar with school emergency plans and how children are reunited with their families; and update the household communication plan.

ORANGE: "High Condition". There is a high risk of terrorist attacks. Government's Role - Coordinate necessary security efforts with federal, state, and local law enforcement; take additional precautions at public events and facilities and restrict access if necessary. Individual's Role - Review preparedness measures for potential terrorist actions including chemical, biological and radiological attacks; and exercise caution when traveling.

RED: "Severe Condition". There is a severe risk of terrorist attacks and is the highest level. Government's Role - Increase or redirect personnel to address critical emergency needs; mobilize specially trained teams or resources; monitor, redirect or constrain transportation systems; and close public and government facilities not critical for continuity of essential operations, especially public safety. Individual's Role - Avoid public gathering places that could be high risk locations; follow official instructions regarding high risk locations; contact employer to determine status of work; listen to the radio or TV for possible advisories or warnings; and prepare to take protective actions if instructed to do so by public officials.
(Note: Excerpt taken from the EDEN website)
Mark F. Hansen, MSU

2002-2003 L.C.A.R.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT:

CALL SIGN: _____ NAME: _____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY ,STATE, AND ZIP: _____

PHONE : _____ LICENSE CLASS: _____

SKYWARN NO.:_____ RACES NO: _____

ARES MEMBER YES___ NO____ E-MAIL ADD.:_____

ARE YOU AN A.R.R.L. MEMBER: YES__ NO__

L.CA.R.A. MEMBERSHIP IS $12.00 PER YEAR, RENEWABLE EACH YEAR ON OCTOBER. 1ST. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP $20.00. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP $4.00. IF YOU WISH AN AUTODIAL NUMBER FOR THE REPEATER THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL $3.00 CHARGE.

Lapeer County Amateur
Radio Association
P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012